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147

FURTHER CORRESPONDENCE

RESPECTING THE

REVISION OF THE COMMERCIAL TREATY OF 1861

BETWEEN

GREAT BRITAIN AND TURKEY.

[In continuation of Confidential Paper No. 4950.]

147

1884.

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1884.

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CONFIDENTIAL.

Further Correspondence respecting the Revision of the Commercial Treaty of 1861 between Great Britain and Turkey.

(In continuation of Confidential Paper No. 4950.)

No. 1.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(Received January 16.)

(No. 3. Commercial.)

Constantinople, January 9, 1884.

My Lord,

WITH reference to Lord Ampthill's despatch to your Lordship No. 173 of the 19th December, in which his Excellency reports that the German Government has given public notice that German goods are to be subjected to an 8 per cent. *ad valorem* duty "until a new Tariff is agreed upon," I beg to state that the above notice does not quite represent the arrangement with the Porte, the agreement being that the 8 per cent. régime shall endure "jusqu'à nouvel avis."

Your Lordship will have observed from my previous despatches that the existing Treaty between Germany and Turkey has seven more years to run, and in accepting the 8 per cent. régime the Germans consider that they have conferred a favour upon the Porte.

I have, &c.
(Signed) DUFFERIN.

No. 2.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(Received January 16.)

(No. 4. Commercial.)

Constantinople, January 10, 1884.

My Lord,

I HAVE the honour to forward, for your Lordship's information, the draft instructions with which I have furnished Mr. Wrench in reference to the new Tariff. I have told Mr. Wrench that, in order not to lose time, he may proceed to act at once upon what I have written, but that it is possible the instructions in question may have to be modified. Your Lordship will perceive that I have left a blank for the maximum rate of duties to which I propose to authorize Mr. Wrench to agree. These blanks I have filled in the margin with the figures 12 per cent. for the common goods, and 15 per cent. for those of a higher and dearer quality. I am of opinion that the foregoing figures represent an equitable maximum, and one to which it is probable that other Powers may be induced to agree.

I have, &c.
(Signed) DUFFERIN.

Inclosure in No. 2.

Draft of Instructions addressed to Consul Wrench.

HAVING read your suggestions dated the 29th of November last, for the revision of the Turkish draft Tariff, I have now, in compliance with a request to that effect from Her Majesty's Government, to instruct you to resume negotiations with the Ottoman Representatives for the forming of a new Commercial Tariff between Great Britain and Turkey.

You will bear in mind that the Tariff in question will not come into force as regards British merchandize until it is applied to the commerce of all nations having Commercial Treaties with the Porte, and that, being an uniform Tariff to be accepted by all such nations, it is possible that the rates of specific or *ad valorem* duties to be agreed upon for English goods may be modified in the course of the Porte's negotiations with other European Powers. British commerce will naturally partake of the benefits of any such modifications.

Her Majesty's Government in its communications with the Porte has invariably maintained its right to most-favoured-nation treatment as regards the subjects, commerce, and navigation of Great Britain, and it will be your duty to report to me anything that may come under your notice bearing upon this important branch of the question.

In your negotiations with the Ottoman Representatives it will be your especial duty to endeavour to induce them to agree to those classifications and prices of goods which have been recommended for adoption by British Chambers of Commerce, particularly as regards cotton and woollen goods; and in case you should not succeed in this, you will report to me for reference home before accepting any material deviation from the classifications and prices which appear in your Report before mentioned.

With regard to the rates of duty to be levied on English manufactures, Her Majesty's Government, although it has shown its desire to aid the Porte in its endeavours to increase its revenue by consenting to an augmentation of import duties, is not prepared to admit that these duties may be increased to an extent which, by adding to the cost of British manufactures, would tend to diminish their importation into Turkey. It must be remembered that the great bulk of English goods sent to the Ottoman Empire are of a low class, suitable to the wants of a poor population, and that any material increase in the cost of these goods would, by placing them beyond the reach of the masses, seriously affect not only the trade of England, but also the revenues of Turkey. On the other hand, it is not yet known to what extent other Powers may be willing to consent to an increase of import duties on the manufactures in which they are interested, and therefore it is more important that you should seek to establish a clear and suitable series of categories of merchandize, with the average prices of each category, rather than to fix duties which may subsequently be changed.

I may, however, inform you that Her Majesty's Government would not disapprove of the principle of increasing the duties on the commoner kinds of cotton and woollen manufactured goods, and on the low class of other English manufactures up to a maximum of* on the value of the bulk of import, and on the finer articles of English manufacture, such as are consumed by the well-to-do classes, up to a maximum of per cent., in the hope that the future will prove that, with a simplified system of Custom-house formalities, the establishment of bonded warehouses, and the abolition of transit, export (?), and internal duties, such rates of taxation may be borne without prejudice to trade, and with advantage to the revenues of the Custom-house.

You will keep me regularly informed as to the progress made in the negotiations, and although you are hereby authorized to come to an understanding with the Ottoman Representatives on all questions immediately connected with the framing of a new Tariff, you will give them to understand that any decision you may arrive at is subject to the approval or otherwise of Her Majesty's Government.

You may communicate the present instructions to the Ottoman Representatives in whole or in part, as you may consider most advisable.

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* 12 to 15 per cent.?

No. 3.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(*Received January* 16.)

(No. 5. Commercial.)

My Lord, *Constantinople, January* 11, 1884.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship copy of a note which I have addressed to the Minister for Foreign Affairs in reply to the Porte's note of the 6th December last, suggesting the drawing up of a Convention to regulate the Commercial relations between Great Britain and Turkey during the interval which must elapse before a new Treaty of Commerce can be concluded.

Your Lordship is aware that on the lapse of our Treaty, which was simultaneous with the expiration of the Treaties of other continental Powers, the Porte of its own accord applied a Custom-house régime of 8 per cent. *ad valorem*. In obedience to your Lordship's instructions I endeavoured to procure from the Sultan's Government a declaration that this régime would be maintained for a definite period, or until the new Treaty should be concluded, on the ground that it would be mutually advantageous to the commerce of both countries that merchants and shippers should know exactly how they stood in reference to their trade with Turkey. For many weeks the Porte showed an inclination to agree to the proposal, but the hesitation of the foreign Minister to give me any definite assurance upon the point has been so unreasonably prolonged that I have thought it better frankly to inform him that the terms of his proposed Convention were quite unacceptable for the reasons I have stated; at the same time that I defined in clear and unmistakable language the position which would be adopted by Her Majesty's Government in relation to this question.

I have, &c.

(Signed) DUFFERIN.

Inclosure in No. 3.

The Earl of Dufferin to Aarifi Pasha.

Altesse, *British Embassy, January* 8, 1884.

I BEG to acknowledge the receipt of your Highness' note of the 6th December, in which you propose that the commercial relations between Great Britain and Turkey should be provisionally regulated by a Convention between their respective Governments, the Convention in question having for its chief object the maintenance of the provisions of the expired Treaty of 1861. Your Highness further suggests that this Convention should endure until the 4th June next, when, you inform me, the Porte will consider itself entitled to resume its full liberty of action as regards the imposition of duties on foreign goods. Your Highness is further good enough to imply that the Porte would be willing to extend to Great Britain the most-favoured-nation treatment, but you intimate that this treatment will be susceptible, under certain conditions, the nature of which your Highness does not specify, to indefinite modifications.

In reply I hasten to express on behalf of Her Majesty's Government its readiness to enter into any equitable *ad interim* agreement with the Sublime Porte; but I would venture to observe that, considering the complicated nature of the negotiations in which the Porte is about to embark, not only with Great Britain, but with other European Powers, the date mentioned for the termination of the Convention hardly leaves sufficient time for the conclusion of a new Treaty.

I have further to call your Highness' attention to the fact that although the Treaty of Commerce and Navigation of the 29th April, 1861, has expired, the older Treaties and Capitulations into which the Treaty of 1861 imported temporary modifications are still extant and in force, and that the liberty of action which your Highness seems inclined to claim for the Porte with respect to the imposition of duties on English goods at the expiration of the Convention, would be necessarily limited by their provisions.

In noting with satisfaction the intimation conveyed by your Highness that the Imperial Government is ready to continue to Great Britain the most-favoured-nation treatment (a right duly secured to her by the existing Treaties, and embodied in that which has expired) I must demur to the qualification by which this announcement is accompanied. The very essence of the principle expressed in the term "most-favoured-

nation treatment" necessarily excludes the idea of exceptional limitations, and it is my duty frankly to inform your Highness that Her Majesty's Government will insist upon the application of the principle in question in its absolute integrity.

In conclusion, your Highness must permit me to express my regret that the Porte has not seen fit to acquiesce in the suggestion I made to your Highness some weeks ago, that the Imperial Government should communicate a simple declaration of its intention to impose an 8 per cent. *ad valorem* duty (which is the régime actually in force) for some reasonable period, or until a new Commercial Treaty should be concluded. The uncertainty occasioned by the Porte's hesitation has already been productive of great inconvenience to merchants and shippers, and cannot fail to prove disadvantageous to the commerce of both countries.

I avail, &c.
(Signed) DUFFERIN.

No. 4.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(Received January 16.)

(No. 6. Commercial. Confidential.)

Constantinople, January 11, 1884.

My Lord,

IN reference to my despatch No. 5 of the 11th instant I have the honour to transmit to your Lordship a copy of the Russian answer to the Porte's note conveying to M. de Nélidoff the same proposal as was transmitted to us for an *ad interim* Convention regulating the commercial relations between the two countries up to the 4th June next.

M. de Nélidoff communicated to me this document quite confidentially, and I must therefore ask your Lordship to bear this circumstance in mind.

I have, &c.
(Signed) DUFFERIN.

Inclosure in No. 4.

M. Nélidoff to Aarifi Pasha.

M. le Ministre,

J'AI eu l'honneur de recevoir la note de votre Altesse du 6 Décembre, relative à l'établissement d'un *modus vivendi* commercial entre la Russie et la Turquie en prévision de nouveaux arrangements.

Tout en me déclarant prêt à soutenir auprès du Gouvernement Impérial le principe d'une Convention Provisoire destinée à régler les relations commerciales des deux pays jusqu'à la conclusion d'un Traité définitif, je crois devoir attirer l'attention de la Sublime Porte sur les considérations suivantes :—

1. Un arrangement provisoire entre la Russie et la Turquie pourrait difficilement être conclu pour un terme fixé d'avance et surtout aussi rapproché que celui de 4 Juin, 1884, vu que le succès des négociations pour un Traité définitif, malgré toute la bonne volonté témoignée à cet égard par le Gouvernement Impérial, ne dépend pas exclusivement de lui, ni même de la Sublime Porte, d'autant plus que la Turquie est encore liée avec d'autres Puissances par des Traités qui n'ont pas expiré et qu'elle désire établir un Tarif uniforme pour les provenances de tous les pays.

2. Si une Convention à terme était même conclue, le Gouvernement Impérial ne saurait aucunement admettre qu'en cas de son expiration avant qu'un Traité définitif ait été signé, la Sublime Porte puisse revendiquer son extrême liberté d'action quant aux taux des droits de douane. Le principe de la nation la plus favorisée et les bases générales des relations commerciales entre la Turquie et la Russie étant inscrits dans les Traités et Conventions antérieurs dont les dispositions fondamentales n'ont pas été abolies, aussi longtemps qu'une Puissance quelconque jouirait d'un traitement établi en vertu d'un Traité, ce même traitement serait *eo ipso* applicable également au commerce Russe.

3. C'est en vertu de ce même principe que le Gouvernement Impérial aurait le droit de se prévaloir de tous les avantages qui seraient accordés par la Sublime Porte à d'autres Puissances, et cela sans égard pour les conditions spéciales qui auraient été concédées en échange. Chaque Concession est nécessairement liée à une condition quelconque, générale ou particulière, qui n'est pas toujours applicable au même degré

aux différents pays, tandis qu'une différence de traitement pour les diverses provenances violerait le principe de l'égalité qui forme la base des relations commerciales des Puissances Européennes avec la Turquie.

En soumettant ces considérations à l'appréciation éclairée de votre Altesse j'aime à espérer que la Sublime Porte voudra bien en reconnaître la justice et l'équité.

No. 5.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(Received January 16.)

(No. 11. Commercial.)

Constantinople, January 12, 1884.

My Lord,

IN reply to your Lordship's despatch No. 214, Commercial, of the 30th November last, I have the honour to transmit herewith to your Lordship a copy of a Memorandum drawn up by Mr. Dragoman Stavridès showing the present position of the Commercial Treaties existing between Turkey and other countries.

I have, &c.
(Signed) DUFFERIN.

Inclosure in No. 5.

Memorandum.

AFTER a careful perusal of the instructions contained in Earl Granville's despatch of the 26th November last, I lost no time in endeavouring to collect the information required by his Lordship respecting the Commercial Treaties, and I have now the honour to submit the result of my inquiries to your Excellency's consideration.

During the years 1861 and 1862 twelve Commercial Treaties were concluded between Turkey and several European Powers for a period of twenty-eight years. One more was concluded in 1868 between Turkey and Portugal for the same period. Of the above Treaties nine were liable to be denounced at the end of the fourteenth or of the twenty-first year, and four were to remain in force during the whole of the stipulated period. The Powers whose Treaties belong to the first category are the following: Great Britain, Belgium, Holland, Italy, Spain, Denmark, Sweden and Norway, Russia, and the United States.

Those whose Treaties belong to the second category are: Germany, France, Austria, and Portugal.

I will now proceed to lay before your Excellency the actual position of each one of the above-mentioned Treaties.

Germany.

The Commercial Treaty with the States of Zollverein is dated the 20th March, 1862. Article XVI of the same provides that it shall remain valid for a period of twenty-eight years, without any of the Contracting Parties having the power to denounce it before the expiration of that period. The Porte had therefore no right to denounce it at the end of the twenty-first year, as it had done with other Treaties, but Germany adhered to the revision scheme of the Port, firstly, in order to help Turkey in her financial embarrassments, and secondly, because it considered that it was more advantageous to negotiate whilst holding a privileged position. The German Government has, therefore, already opened negotiations on this subject, and its Delegate is actually engaged in discussing the future Tariff with the Commissioners of the Sublime Porte.

Austria-Hungary.

The Treaty concluded between this Power and Turkey is dated the 22nd March, 1862, and as it was made valid for the full period of twenty-eight years it could not be denounced. Moreover, if I am well informed, the Austrian Government does not feel much inclined to abandon its right and to negotiate a Treaty.

France.

The Treaty with France is dated the 9th April, 1861. It was made valid for a period of twenty-eight years, but in the XVIIIth Article a provision was made by which

the High Contracting Parties reserved to themselves the right of proposing, either at the end of the fourteenth or of the twenty-first year, such modifications thereto as experience might suggest. The Sublime Porte entertains the hope that in virtue of this provision it may induce the French Government to negotiate a new Treaty.

Portugal.

The Treaty with this Power is dated the 23rd February, 1868. It is valid for twenty-eight years, like the French Treaty, and contains an identical reserve. It is, therefore, to be expected that it will follow the destinies of the latter.

Belgium.

This Treaty is dated the 10th October, 1861. It was denounced on the 12th March, 1883, and will expire on the 13th March, 1884.

Great Britain.

The British Commercial Treaty is dated the 27th April, 1861. According to Article XX, it was liable to be denounced before the end of the stipulated period of twenty-eight years. The denunciation was duly made, and it expired on the 1st October last.

Denmark.

This Treaty is dated the 13th March, 1862. It was duly denounced, and expired on the 13th March, 1883.

Spain.

The Spanish Treaty was signed in the month of March, 1862, was duly denounced, and expired in March, 1883.

United States.

This Treaty is dated the 25th February, 1862, and, according to the views of the Sublime Porte, should expire on the 4th June, 1884. On this point, however, a misunderstanding has arisen between the Sublime Porte and the United States' Government. It appears that originally the Sublime Porte denounced the Treaty, by mistake, on the 13th March, 1883, instead of on the 4th June of that year, which was the date stipulated; and although it rectified the error by a subsequent note to the same effect, bearing the correct date, the United States' Government does not consider the Treaty duly denounced, and contends that it must be held valid for another period of seven years. As this question is not yet quite settled, the United States' Legation is not at all disposed to open negotiations for a new Treaty.

Italy.

The Italian Treaty is dated the 10th July, 1861, and expired on the 1st October last. According to the view taken by the Italian Embassy, the Treaty was not denounced in due time, and should therefore be looked upon as valid for another period of seven years. Subsequently, however, an exchange of views took place between the Porte and the Italian Embassy, and the latter was persuaded to overlook, under certain reservations and conditions, the alleged non-fulfilment of the stipulated form. It has, therefore, just appointed a Delegate to the Commission of the future Tariff.

Holland.

This Treaty is dated the 25th February, 1862, and, having been duly denounced, will expire on the 13th March, 1884.

Russia.

The Russian Treaty is dated the 22nd February, 1862, was duly denounced, and expired on the 13th March, 1883.

Sweden and Norway.

This Treaty is dated the 21st February, 1862, and, being duly denounced, expired on the 13th March, 1883.

From the foregoing statement, it is obvious that by the 4th June next year, supposing that the difficulty with the United States' Legation is arranged in the interval, all the Treaties which have been duly denounced by the Sublime Porte will have definitely expired.

I would now beg leave to examine, in the first place, the position of the Powers whose Treaties have already expired, or will expire on the above date. It seems to me that these States undoubtedly possess the right, in virtue of the most-favoured-nation clause, to receive the same treatment as those whose Treaties have not as yet expired. Moreover, Article XVII of the French Treaty gives it to be understood that the Sublime Porte will not object to the other foreign Powers seeking to secure for their subjects the same privileges as those stipulated in that Treaty. It was on this account, therefore, that the Sublime Porte saw the necessity of admitting that the produce of the soil of those States whose Treaties had expired should continue to be subjected to the 8 per cent. *ad valorem* duty stipulated in the old Treaties. Thus, even supposing that the final term of the 4th June should elapse without the conclusion of a new Treaty, the Sublime Porte would be none the less bound to maintain the 8 per cent. *ad valorem* duty.

(Signed) C. G. STAVRIDÈS.

No. 6.

Earl Granville to the Earl of Dufferin.

(No. 8. Commercial.)

My Lord, *Foreign Office, January* 18, 1884.

I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of your Excellency's despatch No. 11, Commercial, of the 12th instant, inclosing a Memorandum by Mr. Stavridès on the present position of the Commercial Treaties between Turkey and different countries.

This Memorandum is well drawn up, and shows with clearness in each instance the present state of the case. I have to request that your Excellency will express to Mr. Stavridès my approval of this paper, and also of the ability and attention shown by him in dealing with commercial questions.

I am, &c.

(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 7.

Earl Granville to the Earl of Dufferin.

(No. 9. Commercial.)

My Lord, *Foreign Office, January* 18, 1884.

I APPROVE the note addressed by your Excellency to Aarifi Pasha on the 8th instant with respect to commercial negotiations with Turkey, of which a copy is inclosed in your Lordship's despatch No. 5, Commercial, of the 11th of this month.

I am, &c.

(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 8.

Earl Granville to the Earl of Dufferin.

(No. 10. Commercial.)

My Lord, *Foreign Office, January* 18, 1884.

I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of your Excellency's despatch No. 4, Commercial, of the 10th instant, inclosing your draft instructions to Mr. Consul Wrench, with respect to the new Turkish Tariff.

In reply I have to state that I approve these instructions generally. With regard to your inquiry as to maximum rates of duty, it would not be expedient for Her Majesty's Government to suggest rates higher than from 8 to 10 per cent. in the case of common and low-priced goods, and from 12 to 15 per cent. for those of a higher and dearer quality.

I am, &c.

(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 9.

Lord Ampthill to Earl Granville.—(Received January 21.)

(No. 16. Commercial.)

Berlin, January 18, 1884.

My Lord,

THE Earl of Dufferin, in his despatch No. 3, Commercial, of the 9th instant, inclosed in your Lordship's No, 7, Commercial, of the 16th instant, with reference to my Report No. 173 of the 19th December last, observes that the statement contained in my above-named despatch, that German goods are to be subjected to an 8 per cent. *ad valorem* duty "until a new Tariff is agreed upon," does not quite represent the arrangement with the Porte, the agreement being that the 8 per cent. régime shall endure "jusqu'à nouvel avis."

On again referring to the German text of the official notification in the Gazette of the 17th December, I find that the original German sentence from which the English sentence, "until a new Tariff is agreed upon," was translated, stands thus: "biz zur Vereinbarung eines neuen Zolltarifs;" so that I must uphold the absolute correctness of the rendering of the sense and wording of the German official notification by my translator.

I will make inquiry at the Foreign Office, and ascertain to which German text the French translation "jusqu'à nouvel avis" refers.

I have, &c.

(Signed) AMPTHILL.

P.S.—Since writing the above, I have inquired at the Foreign Office about the arrangement with the Porte, and have been told that the German Government, considering that the existing Commercial Treaty with Turkey had seven more years to run, whilst the Tariff had expired, agreed to an 8 per cent. *ad valorem* duty on German goods "until a new Tariff" could be negotiated.

"Jusqu'à nouvel avis" is therefore not considered a correct translation of "biz zur Vereinbarung eines neuen Zolltarifs."

A.

No. 10.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(Received February 6.)

(No. 19. Commercial.)

Constantinople, January 31, 1884.

My Lord,

IN acknowledging the receipt of your Lordship's despatch No. 10, Commercial, of the 18th instant, in reference to my instructions to Mr. Wrench, inclosed in my despatch to your Lordship No. 4, Commercial, of the 10th January, 1884, I beg to state that, on consideration, I have thought it advisable to excise the last paragraph in the above-mentioned instructions, and at the same time to write Mr. Wrench a despatch containing some supplementary directions. Of this latter document I now beg to inclose a copy. Your Lordship will perceive that in this second despatch I have fixed the maximum rates in accordance with the suggestions with which you have been good enough to favour me; but in acquainting the Ottoman Government with our willingness to assist them in ameliorating their revenue, I have thought it well to call their attention to the gross abuses which now prevail at the Custom-house, and to make our final acceptance of an amended Tariff contingent upon proper reforms being introduced into the arrangements of the Revenue Department. I have left it to Mr. Wrench's discretion to disclose or not at present the maximum limits of the duties to which Her Majesty's Government will assent.

I have, &c.

(Signed) DUFFERIN.

Inclosure in No. 10.

The Earl of Dufferin to Consul Wrench.

Sir,

Constantinople, January 31, 1884.

WITH reference to the instructions I addressed to you on the 14th instant, I have now to inform you that I have received a despatch from Earl Granville concerning the rates of duty which Her Majesty's Government will consent to introduce into the new Tariff between Great Britain and the Porte.

Her Majesty's Government approve of the principle adopted of taxing jewellery and precious stones at rates not exceeding 3 per cent., and of establishing a maximum duty of 8 per cent. on raw materials and semi-manufactured goods, as well as on cereals and machinery.

Her Majesty's Government does not, however, consider it expedient to suggest rates higher than from 8 to 10 per cent. on the value of the bulk of imports under each category for the commoner kinds of cotton and woollen manufactures, and on the low-priced classes of other British merchandize. On the higher and dearer qualities of English goods, such as are purchased by the well-to-do classes alone, a rate of from 12 to 15 per cent. may be admitted.

Whenever it may become expedient, in your opinion, to convey an intimation to the above effect to the Ottoman Representatives, I shall be obliged by your informing them at the same time that although Her Majesty's Government is thus willing to acquiesce in arrangements which promise an increase in the revenue of Turkey, it does so on the understanding that the prospects of improvement held out in the Porte's communications, and in the Memorandum which accompanied the draft Tariff prepared by the Ottoman Delegates, are duly carried into effect. It is stated in this latter document that a simplified system of Custom-house operations will be introduced; that declarations of goods will be accepted; and that bonded warehouses will be established. Her Majesty's Government further understand that transit and internal duties will be abolished, and that the Porte will also do away with export duties, considering that the cost of their collection cannot far exceed the revenues now derived from them.

In thus giving the Turkish Commissioners to understand upon what conditions proposals for a new Treaty and Tariff will be agreed to, it will be advisable for you to add that Her Majesty's Government have learned with sincere regret that no amelioration has as yet taken place in the Custom-house administration, either at the capital or in the provinces. The vices so often exposed by Her Majesty's Consuls in their Reports are still rampant. The complicated and superfluous formalities which render systematic obstruction possible are still maintained, only to be relaxed when extra payments are made. It thus results that importers are driven in self-defence to abusive methods of bringing their goods to market, the valuers, the weighers, in fact the employés of almost every department of the Ottoman Custom-house, continuing to favour those only who are willing to purchase their good offices. In fact, the system of bribery is as rife as ever.

You will explain to the Ottoman Representatives that while such a state of affairs remains unchecked, Her Majesty's Government cannot but meet a demand for increased duties on British merchandize with hesitation, and that it is only in the confident hope that the work of reform will be forthwith seriously undertaken that it has authorized me to instruct you in the sense of my previous despatch. Should no improvement become soon visible, I shall be under the necessity of recommending Her Majesty's Government to reconsider its present decision, and of conferring with the other European Powers about to negotiate Commercial Treaties with the Porte as to the advisability of taking common action in the matter.

You will use your discretion in communicating the contents of this despatch, in whole or in part, to the Turkish Commissioners.

I am, &c.

(Signed) DUFFERIN.

No. 11.

Earl Granville to the Earl of Dufferin.

(No. 18. Commercial.) *Foreign Office, February* 9, 1884.

My Lord,

AS inquiry is likely to be made in Parliament with respect to the progress of negotiations with Turkey, I have to request that your Excellency will obtain from Mr. Wrench a Report on his proceedings at least once a-month, and that you will be so good as to report on the subject from time to time.

I am, &c.

(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 12.

Earl Granville to the Earl of Dufferin.

(No. 19. Commercial.) *Foreign Office, February* 9, 1884.

My Lord,

I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of your Excellency's despatch No. 19, Commercial, of the 31st ultimo, and to state that I approve the supplementary instruction of the same date which your Lordship has addressed to Mr. Wrench with respect to the Turkish Tariff negotiations.

In order to avoid any possible doubt, I shall be glad to receive a copy of your Excellency's first instruction to Mr. Wrench in its final shape.

I am, &c.

(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 13.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(Received February 13.)

(No. 17. Commercial.) *Constantinople, January* 29, 1884.

My Lord,

I HAVE the honour to report to your Lordship that the German Embassy intimated to the Sublime Porte its readiness to cancel the existing Treaty of Commerce between Germany and Turkey, and to commence negotiations for a new Treaty, provided they can agree upon the Tariff. It is stated that, pending the conclusion of the negotiations, Germany claims that her commerce should be allowed the alternative of being taxed on the basis of 8 per cent. *ad valorem*, or according to the rates of the Tariffs which still remain in force.

I have, &c.

(Signed) DUFFERIN.

No. 14.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(Received February 13.)

(No. 21. Commercial.) *Constantinople, February* 5, 1884.

My Lord,

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith to your Lordship copy of a despatch which I have received from Mr. Wrench, containing the *procès-verbal* of the first meeting between him and the Ottoman Delegates charged with the negotiation of a new Commercial Tariff.

I have, &c.

(Signed) DUFFERIN.

Inclosure 1 in No. 14.

Consul Wrench to the Earl of Dufferin.

My Lord, *Constantinople, January* 29 1884.

I HAVE the honour to report that, in compliance with the instructions conveyed to me in your Lordship's despatch of the 14th instant, I at once placed myself in communication with Bertram and Michael Effendis, the Ottoman Delegates charged with the negotiation of a new Commercial Tariff.

Saturday, the 19th instant, was selected for our first official meeting, and I have the honour to inclose a copy of the Minutes of that meeting, which were signed at the second sitting, held on the 26th instant.

I have, &c.

(Signed) WILLIAM H. WRENCH.

Inclosure 2 in No. 14.

Procès-verbal No. 1.—*Seance du* 7 (19) *Janvier*, 1884.

E. BERTRAM EFFENDI, Mustéchar du Département des Contributions Indirectes, et Michael Effendi Portugal, Président du Conseil du même Département, tous deux Délégués du Gouvernement Impérial Ottoman pour la négociation des nouveaux Traités de Commerce et d'un Tarif Général de Douane, et Mr. William H. Wrench, Consul et Délégué du Gouvernement de Sa Majesté Britannique pour la négociation d'un nouveau Tarif Commercial avec la Turquie, se sont réunis aujourd'hui 7 (19) Janvier, 1884.

Le bureau a été formé par la nomination de Yanco Effendi Vazzidis, Directeur du Bureau de Traduction du Département des Contributions Indirectes aux fonctions de Secrétaire.

Mr. Wrench communique aux Délégués Ottomans qu'il a été autorisé par son Gouvernement à négocier un nouveau Tarif Commercial entre la Turquie et la Grande-Bretagne.

D'après les instructions que Mr. Wrench a reçu et dont il a donné communication à ses collègues, le Tarif à négocier sera un Tarif à accepter par toutes les nations agant un Traité de Commerce avec la Sublime Porte, de manière que si les taux spécifiques ou *ad valorem* établis pour les articles Anglais étaient abaissés dans le cours des négociations avec une autre Puissance, le commerce Anglais devra naturellement en profiter. Le Gouvernement Anglais dans ses communications à la Sublime Porte a invariablement demandé pour les sujets, le commerce, et la navigation de la Grande-Bretagne, le traitement de la nation la plus favorisée. Mr. Wrench est chargé d'amener ses collègues à agréer les prix et la classification qui lui ont été recommandés par les Chambres de Commerce de son pays, notamment en ce qui concerne les articles intéressant spécialement le commerce Anglais—par exemple, les cotonnades et la lainerie. Le Gouvernement de Sa Majesté Britannique, tout en désirant aider la Sublime Porte dans sa tâche d'augmenter les revenus du Trésor, n'entend pas que les augmentations des taxes soient faites dans des proportions qui pourraient amener une diminution de l'importation Anglaise, parce que la plupart des importations Anglaises se composent d'articles appropriés à une population peu aisée et toute augmentation considérable de leur prix de revient aurait pour effet d'affecter non seulement ce commerce, mais encore les revenus du fisc Ottoman. Quant à la question du taux, Mr. Wrench est chargé de s'attacher plutôt à établir des classes bien définies et à arrêter d'accord avec ses collègues les prix moyens, la fixation du taux pouvant être facilement faite et calculée plus tard. Le Gouvernement Anglais se réserve le droit d'accepter ou non définitivement le résultat des négociations dont Mr. Wrench est chargé.

Les Délégués Ottomans formulent les mêmes réserves pour leur Gouvernement quant à l'acceptation définitive des résultats de leurs négociations; les questions de principe posées par les instructions de Mr. Wrench doivent naturellement faire l'objet des délibérations lors de la conclusion du Traité de Commerce auquel le Tarif sera annexé. Quant au taux, les Délégués Ottomans font remarquer que leur Gouvernement avait communiqué dans le temps à l'Ambassade de Sa Majesté Britannique ses vues générales et pensent que les négociations n'auraient pas de résultat utile si les taux n'étaient pas arrêtés en même temps.

Mr. Wrench promet de demander des instructions à cet égard; en attendant, il demande communication du tableau des droits spécifiques pour les quinze premiers numéros du projet et du Tarif, afin de les examiner, et promet à son tour communication des classifications qu'il propose pour les cotonnades, la lainerie, et la ferronnerie.

La prochaine séance est fixée à Samedi.

(Signé) WILLIAM H. WRENCH.
E. BERTRAM.
MICHAEL PORTUGAL.

Pour copie conforme:
Le Secrétaire,
(Signé) Y. P. VAZZIDIS.

No. 15.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(Received February 13.)

(No. 23. Commercial.)

Constantinople, February 7, 1884.

My Lord,

WITH reference to my despatch No. 21, Commercial, of the 5th instant, I have the honour to transmit herewith to your Lordship a copy of a despatch from Mr. Wrench, containing the Minutes of the second meeting between him and the Ottoman Delegates charged with the negotiation of the new Commercial Tariff.

I have, &c.
(Signed) DUFFERIN.

Inclosure 1 in No. 15.

Consul Wrench to the Earl of Dufferin.

Constantinople, February 5, 1884.

My Lord,

I HAVE the honour to inclose a copy of the Minutes of the second sitting of the Commission composed of the Ottoman Delegates and myself for the framing of a new Commercial Tariff.

We commenced at the beginning of the draft Tariff, my colleagues having previously handed to me for examination the revised draft of the first seventeen chapters.

I made no objections at this meeting to the values contained in Chapter 1 on live animals, preferring, as this branch of trade does not affect English commerce, to leave it to the Russian and to the other foreign Delegates interested to negotiate for reductions.

The duties, expressed in gold piastres, appear opposite each item, and are calculated at the rate of 8 per cent. But the amounts now shown possess no importance, as they will be considerably reduced in passing under the examination of the Representatives of all the Governments about to negotiate Commercial Treaties with the Porte. When the amounts of duty have been agreed to by all the foreign Délegates the results will be communicated to each one of us.

I have learned that, since the above-mentioned sitting, the Russian Delegate, in discussion with his Ottoman colleagues, has already reduced several of the values submitted to me in Chapter 1.

I have, &c.
(Signed) WILLIAM H. WRENCH.

Inclosure 2 in No. 15.

Procès-verbal No. 2.—Séance du 14 (26) 1884.

LES Délégués des Gouvernements d'Angleterre et de Turquie se sont réunis aujourd'hui 14 (26) Janvier, 1884.

Les Délégués Ottomans sont assistés par Püschel Effendi, Directeur-Général de la Surveillance Douanière et Chef des Commissions d'Évaluations.

Le procès-verbal de la séance précédente a été lu et approuvé.

Le Délégué Anglais communique à ses collègues qu'à la suite d'un entretien qu'il a eu avec son Excellence Lord Dufferin, Ambassadeur de Sa Majesté Britannique à Constantinople, relativement à la question du taux des taxes soulevée dans la séance précédente, son Excellence lui a assuré qu'elle attend incessamment les instructions du Gouvernement Anglais à ce sujet.

Les Délégues ont examiné ensuite le No. 1 du Projet de Tarif et sont tombés d'accord sur les résultats fixés dans l'annexe.

(Signé) WILLIAM H. WRENCH.
E. BERTRAM.
MICHAEL PORTUGAL.

Pour copie conforme:
Le Secrétaire,
(Signé) Y. P. VAZZIDIS.

Annexe au Procès-verbal No. 2.

I.—ANIMAUX VIVANTS.

Dénomination des Marchandises.	Droit par tête.
	Prs. cr cts.
Chevaux—	
(*a.*) Entiers, hongres, juments	320 00
(*b.*) Poulains, suivant leur mère	20 00
(*c.*) Poulains, autres	80 00
Mulets, bardeaux, et mules—	
(*a.*) Mulets, bardeaux, et mules	60 00
(*b.*) Poulains-mulets, suivant leur mère	10 00
(*c.*) Poulains-mulets, autres	40 00
Ânes et ânesses—	
(*a.*) De grande race	60 00
(*b.*) De petite race	20 00
(*c.*) Anons	10 00
Chameaux	120 00
Taureaux	110 00
Bœufs et buffles	110 00
Vaches et femelles de buffle	60 00
Bouvillons et taurillons	32 00
Génisses et génisses de buffle	32 00
Veaux	10 00
Béliers, moutons, brebis	8 00
Agneaux	4 00
Boucs et chèvres	6 00
Chevreaux	3 00
Porcs	32 00
Cochons de lait	4 00
Chiens de chasse, de luxe, et de garde	28 00
Poules, coqs, poulets	0 75
Dindons et dindes	2 50
Canards	0 75
Oies	2 00
Autres volailles et oiseaux	2 50
Gibier et autres animaux vivants non-dénommés	10 00

(Signé) WILLIAM H. WRENCH.
E. BERTRAM.
MICHAEL PORTUGAL.

Pour copie conforme:
Le Secrétaire,
(Signé) Y. P. VAZZIDIS.

No. 16.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(Received February 16.)

(No. 28. Commercial.)

My Lord, *Constantinople, February 9, 1884.*

WITH reference to my despatch No. 3, Commercial, of the 9th ultimo, and to Lord Ampthill's Nos. 173 of the 19th December last, and No. 16 of the 18th ultimo, as to the definition of the term during which the 8 per cent. *ad valorem* duty is to be applied to German goods, I beg to observe that it was upon the authority of the Minister for Foreign Affairs that I stated that the expression used was "jusqu'à nouvel ordre." In confirmation of this fact I have now the honour to forward to your Lordship a copy of the actual note in which the intimation on the subject was conveyed by the Porte to the German Ambassador.

As, however, Germany's Commercial Treaty with Turkey will not expire until 1891, and Turkey of her own accord having substituted the 8 per cent. *ad valorem* duty for the pre-existing special Tariff attached to the Treaty in question, it follows that the 8 per cent. régime is secured to Germany up till the year 1891, unless a new Treaty should in the meantime be concluded between the two Powers. As there is every probability of a new Treaty being agreed upon before the above-mentioned date, the German Government may have thought itself justified in substituting the phrase quoted by Lord Ampthill for the expression actually adopted in the Porte's note, but it is just possible to conceive the occurrence of circumstances which might prove its inaccuracy.

I have, &c.
(Signed) DUFFERIN.

Inclosure in No. 16.

Aarifi Pasha to the Earl of Dufferin.

Le 11 Décembre, 1884.

M. l'Ambassadeur,

J'AI l'honneur d'informer votre Excellence que la Sublime Porte vient de prescrire aux autorités Douanières de l'Empire de percevoir jusqu'à nouvel ordre le droit de 8 pour cent *ad valorem* sur les marchandises importées d'Allemagne.

Veuillez, &c.
(Signé) A. AARIFI.

No. 17.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(Received February 16.)

(No. 29. Commercial. Confidential.)

My Lord, *Constantinople, February 12, 1884.*

With reference to my despatch No. 28, Commercial, of the 9th instant, I have the honour to transmit to your Lordship herewith copies of two notes addressed to the Ottoman Minister for Foreign Affairs by the German Ambassador on the subject of the commercial negotiations between Germany and Turkey. No reply has as yet been returned by the Sublime Porte to these communications.

I have, &c.
(Signed) DUFFERIN.

Inclosure 1 in No. 17.

M. Radowitz to Aarifi Pasha.

Péra, le 25 Janvier, 1884.

M. le Ministre,

JE n'ai pas manqué de porter à la connaissance de mon Gouvernement le contenu de la note de votre Altesse en date du 11 Décembre dernier relative à l'application du droit de 8 pour cent *ad valorem* sur les marchandises importées d'Allemagne. Le Gouvernement Impérial m'a chargé, et j'ai l'honneur d'exprimer à votre Altesse, toute notre reconnaissance d'avoir bien voulu donner suite à cette demande.

Le Gouvernement Impérial se plaît à espérer qu'un autre principe connexe à cette question, et découlant naturellement de la clause de la nation la plus favorisée, savoir: le droit de l'importateur de marchandise Allemande d'opter entre le taux de 8 pour cent *ad valorem* et celui des Tarifs spéciaux en vigueur pour le commerce des autres pays qui lui paraîtrait le plus favorable, finira également par recevoir de la part du Gouvernement Impérial Ottoman une sanction conforme aux vœux exprimés dans les différentes communications antérieures que j'ai eu l'honneur de faire à ce sujet.

Veuillez, &c.
(Signé) RADOWITZ.

Inclosure 2 in No. 17.

M. Radowitz to Aarifi Pasha.

M. le Ministre, *Péra, le 25 Janvier, 1884.*

VOTRE Altesse a bien voulu, par sa note du 11 Juillet dernier, réitérer un vœu émis antérieurement par le Gouvernement Impérial Ottoman, à savoir: que le Délégué Allemand se trouvant à Constantinople pour élaborer les bases d'un nouveau Tarif spécial à conclure fût également muni de pouvoirs à la fin de s'entendre avec les Commissaires Ottomans sur certaines modifications à introduire dans la teneur du Traité de Commerce même—modifications qui trouveraient leur sanction par la conclusion d'un nouveau Traité entre la Turquie et l'Allemagne. Par une autre note en date du 26 Septembre dernier, votre Altesse a proposé d'appliquer les même modifications au Traité conclu, le 27 Septembre, 1862, entre la Sublime Porte et les villes Hanséatiques.

Le Gouvernement Impérial, à qui je n'avais point manqué de transmettre les propositions de votre Altesse, me charge de lui faire savoir qu'il est tout animé du désir de seconder les vues de la Sublime Porte, et qu'il est prêt à entrer en négociations sur un nouveau Traité de Commerce destiné à remplacer ceux en vigueur entre la Turquie et le Zollverein d'une part, les villes Hanséatiques d'autre part, dès que les négociations qui ont lieu en ce moment entre M. Gillet, Délégué Allemand, et les Commissaires Ottomans, feront prévoir un résultat prompt et apte à satisfaire, les vœux légitimes du commerce Allemand. Le nouveau Traité à conclure devrait, d'après les vues de mon Gouvernement, rester en vigueur pendant une période égale à la durée des anciens Traités—vingt-huit ans—mais les Hautes Parties Contractantes se réserveraient (comme dans les anciens Traités) le droit de soumettre à une révision, de sept en sept ans, le Tableau des valeurs moyennes servant de base aux évaluations Douanières. Il va sans dire que les anciens Traités resteront en vigueur pendant toute la durée des négociations et jusqu'à l'entrée en vigueur du nouveau Traité.

Votre Altesse se convaincra par ce qui précède combien le Gouvernement Impérial d'Allemagne est disposé à venir au devant des désirs de la Sublime Porte dans l'importante question d'un nouveau réglement des relations commerciales entre les deux pays.

Le commencement des pourparlers sur un nouveau Traité dépendra donc essentiellement des instructions que la Sublime Porte voudra bien donner à ses Commissaires, en vue de mener, le plus promptement possible, à bonne fin, les négociations entamées actuellement pour la révision du Tarif.

Je profite, &c.
(Signé) RADOWITZ.

No. 18.

Earl Granville to Lord Ampthill.

(No. 20. Commercial.)

My Lord, *Foreign Office, February 27, 1884.*

I TRANSMIT herewith, for your Excellency's information, copies of despatches from Lord Dufferin with respect to commercial negotiations between Germany and Turkey.*

I am, &c.
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

* Nos. 13, 16, and 17.

No. 19.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(Received March 6, 2·20 P.M.)

(Commercial.)
(Telegraphic.)

Constantinople, March 6, 1884, 12·10 P.M.

HAVE received reply of Porte to my note of the 8th January, in which it disputes our view as to binding nature of commercial clauses in Capitulations on ground that they were voided by the subsequent Treaty of 1861.

Note [?] goes home by messenger Saturday.

No. 20.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(Received March 12.)

(No. 45. Commercial.)

Constantinople, March 7, 1884.

My Lord,

I HAVE the honour to inclose, for your Lordship's information, the reply which has been sent by the Porte to my note of the 8th January. In that note, by your Lordship's instructions, I informed the Porte that, though the Treaty of 1861 had lapsed, the previous Treaties and Capitulations, some of the terms of which the Treaty of 1861 temporarily modified, had naturally reacquired their former force. The Porte in its reply denies the correctness of this view, and contends that the Treaty of 1861 altogether voided the commercial clauses in all previous Treaties and Capitulations, and that consequently the Porte has now recovered its complete liberty of action. The Turkish Government even goes a step further, and asserts that the most-favoured-nation treatment secured to us by the Treaties in question has also disappeared for the same reason. This latter pretension is pre-eminently absurd, inasmuch as the expired Treaty did not in any way affect or deal with the most-favoured-nation treatment principle, and the same process of reasoning would abrogate our rights of Consular jurisdiction and all our other extant privileges.

I have, &c.
(Signed) DUFFERIN.

Inclosure in No. 20.

Aarifi Pasha to the Earl of Dufferin.

Sublime Porte, le 5 Mars, 1884.

M. l'Ambassadeur,

J'AI eu l'honneur de recevoir la note que votre Excellence a bien voulu m'adresser le 8 Janvier dernier relativement à la Convention provisoire à conclure en vue de régler les relations commerciales entre les deux États.

Bien que les considérations mises en avant par votre Excellence concordent en grande partie avec les vues que j'ai eu l'honneur de lui exposer dans mes précédentes communications, je crois devoir néanmoins, afin d'éclaircir mieux la situation et de faire connaître au Gouvernement de Sa Majesté la Reine aussi précisément que possible la manière de voir de la Sublime Porte, d'examiner ici les points principaux qui nous divisent dans cette importante question.

En premier lieu, votre Excellence me fait observer qu'il est nécessaire que le commerce Anglais soit rassuré sur le régime Douanier pour un temps suffisant et que la date fixée comme terme de la Convention provisoire projetée n'est pas aussi longue que la situation actuelle de la question des Traités de Commerce l'exigerait.

Permettez-moi de vous faire remarquer, M. l'Ambassadeur, que c'est précisément pour ne pas laisser le commerce dans le doute que la Sublime Porte, qui n'avait pas manqué de communiquer en son temps au Gouvernement de Sa Majesté la Reine les bases des nouveaux arrangements, a pris l'initiative de proposer la conclusion d'une Convention provisoire.

Si cependant le terme désigné du 4 Juin, 1884, paraît maintenant trop rapproché, on pourrait le prolonger de quelques mois encore.

En second lieu, votre Excellence exprime l'avis que la liberté d'action que la Sublime Porte désire se réserver à l'expiration de la Convention provisoire en ce qui

concerne le taux des droits, se trouve limitée par les dispositions des anciens Traités et Capitulations.

Je regrette, M. l'Ambassadeur, de différer d'avis avec votre Excellence à cet égard. Suivant un principe des plus élémentaires du droit international, aussitôt que les dispositions d'un Traité, que celui-ci soit conclu ou non, sont modifiées d'un commun accord par les clauses d'un acte subséquent, elles cessent d'être en vigueur pour jamais sans pouvoir revivre à l'expiration de l'acte subséquent. Dans le cas qui nous occupe, les anciens Traités et Capitulations auxquels votre Excellence fait allusion, stipulaient un droit de 3 pour cent pour les marchandises importées en Turquie.

Le Traité de Commerce conclu en 1861 a modifié cette clause et a élevé les droits susvisés à 8 pour cent.

De même, c'est en conséquence du principe ci-dessus exposé que l'Article Ier du dit Traité porte que "les droits, privilèges, et immunités conférés aux sujets Britanniques sont confirmés à l'exception des clauses que le présent Traité a pour objet de modifier."

Personne ne saurait, dès lors, contester que cette ancienne stipulation d'un droit de 3 pour cent reste abolie et qu'à l'expiration du dernier Traité le Gouvernement Impérial est en droit, votre Excellence voudra bien en convenir, d'avoir dans toute sa plénitude sa liberté d'action.

Il en est de même du traitement de la nation la plus favorisée, qui ne saurait avoir d'existence propre en dehors du Traité expiré. Comme il a été conclu avec chaque Puissance séparément des Traités de Commerce ayant des conditions distinctes et une durée non-uniforme, la clause de la nation la plus favorisée ne saurait point évidemment s'appliquer, en tant que le Traité n'est pas expiré, aux cas qui ont fait l'objet d'une stipulation spéciale dans les dits Traités. Mais à plus forte raison si le Traité a pris fin, cette clause ne pourrait plus trouver d'application. Autrement il suffirait à chaque État de s'en tenir au traitement de la nation la plus favorisée et de n'avoir aucune obligation de conclure de Traité distinct pour favoriser le commerce et la navigation de son pays.

D'ailleurs, on ne pourrait non plus, en se basant sur ce traitement, exiger à être traité sur le même pied que les Puissances dont les Traités n'ont pas encore expirés, attendu qu'à l'expiration de leurs Traités, ces États aussi seront naturellement traités par le même régime et sur le même pied, tel qu'il est maintenant proposé au Gouvernement Britannique.

Mais si en droit strict le Gouvernement de Sa Majesté Britannique n'est pas fondé à réclamer ce bénéfice par suite de l'expiration du Traité de 1861, il n'en est pas moins vrai que la Sublime Porte est toujours désireuse de concilier en tous points les intérêts du fisc Ottoman avec ceux du commerce Anglais, et cette seule considération suffit aux yeux du Gouvernement Impérial pour faire comprendre qu'il ne désire point nuire au commerce Anglais, qui est si important en Turquie.

Enfin, votre Excellence voudra bien me permettre d'ajouter que si la Sublime Porte insiste sur la conclusion d'une Convention provisoire, c'est qu'elle sent combien il importe de rassurer avant tout le commerce sur le régime qui pourra lui être appliqué en attendant la conclusion d'un Traité définitif.

C'est d'après l'accueil que rencontreront ses propositions auprès du Gouvernement de Sa Majesté la Reine que la Sublime Porte pourra arrêter sa ligne de conduite dans les négociations futures, et en cela elle compte particulièrement, j'aime à le dire, M. l'Ambassadeur, sur l'appui efficace et le concours éclairé de votre Excellence et de son Gouvernement.

Veuillez, &c.
(Signé) A. AARIFI.

No. 21.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(Received March 15.)

(No. 48. Commercial.)

Constantinople, March 11, 1884.

My Lord,

I HAVE the honour of forwarding, for your Lordship's information, a despatch from Mr. Wrench, reporting the proceedings of the new Commercial Tariff Commission during the past month, and inclosing copies of the *procès-verbaux* of the 3rd, 4th, and 5th meetings of that Commission.

I would especially desire to call your Lordship's attention to the *procès-verbal* and annex of the 3rd meeting of the Commission, which records some observations of

Mr. Wrench's on the corrupt administration of the Ottoman Custom-house. Although the Turkish Delegates were bound to dispute the correctness of Mr. Wrench's allegations as a matter of form, their exactitude cannot be seriously questioned, as the facts stated are matters of universal notoriety.

I have, &c.
(Signed) DUFFERIN.

Inclosure 1 in No. 21.

Consul Wrench to the Earl of Dufferin.

Constantinople, March 7, 1884.

My Lord,

IN continuation of my Report of the 5th ultimo, I have now the honour to inclose copies of the *procès-verbaux* of the 3rd, 4th, and 5th meetings of the Commission charged with negotiating a new Commercial Tariff between Great Britain and Turkey.

Your Excellency will perceive that, at our 3rd meeting, I announced to my colleagues the exact nature of the instructions I had received from your Lordship on the 31st January, and that I replied shortly to the remarks which this communication elicited from the Ottoman Delegates.

I trust your Excellency will not disapprove of the language I used on this occasion.

That an organized system of corruption is inseparable from Turkish Custom-house administration has long been notorious. Briberysu its the merchant, as by it he reduces the amount of charges on his merchandize; it suits also the Customs officer, as he thereby adds to his salary. It is but the Turkish revenue that suffers, but those charged with Imperial interests make it their first business, however high they may be placed, to protect themselves, and they have long since discovered that, to do this effectually, they must abstain from attacking so time-honoured and deeply-rooted an institution as bribery. It is thus that corruption thrives, and not only is it out of the question to expect that an uniform Tariff will enable the Heads of the Customs Department to put an end to this pernicious state of affairs, but, if the universally expressed opinion is to be trusted, the change will but foster its development. As time goes on, all connected with and consequently interested in its maintenance, become more expert in devising new modes for its application, and the result is that, in spite of the introduction of the German element into the Administration, never was bribery in so flourishing a position as at the present time.

So great is its extent, and so openly is it now practised, that it would almost appear as if the various officials feel convinced that reform is an empty word in Turkey, and that the present condition of affairs will not be tolerated for long. They thus have become demoralized and shameless, and each one strives to obtain all he can for himself, by preference out of the foreigner, but also out of every one with whom he comes into official contact.

Whether any practical good will result from simply remonstrating against abuses is, I regret to say, doubtful.

The superior functionnries of the Custom-house are acquainted with all the details of bribery and corruption as it is practised; they—including, I am informed, Bertram Effendi himself—have reported on the subject more than once, but their reports meet with no encouragement from the officers of State to whom they are addressed; nor are they likely, with an uniform Tariff in hand, to encounter anything but a rebuff if they attempt to introduce improvements and innovations which would either offend or injure a wide circle of the Ottoman official world; I say a wide circle, for the ramifications of corruption are wide, and spread high as well as low.

Nothing but extreme measures can produce a change for the better, and, with your Excellency's permission, I would propose, in the first place, to communicate the third *procès-verbal* to the Delegates of all nations about to negotiate new Treaties and Tariffs with the Porte, with a view of calling the attention of the European Governments to this very important question.

Indeed, unless some change be made before the new Tariff comes into operation, it is simply lost labour to fix that coal is to pay so much, or iron such a rate, holding, as one does, the certain conviction that neither one rate nor the other will be applied.

When one knows that, with the present system of 8 per cent. *ad valorem*, never by any chance does the commonest article, the value of which is perfectly well known,

pay 8 per cent. to the Ottoman Treasury; that by means of middlemen, who are more or less rich, a merchant can receive at his office, all expenses paid, his merchandize at a rate of from 6 to a maximum of 8 per cent. on its value; that the contents of some of the best shops of Constantinople never pass the custom-house at all, although landed in the port and under the very eyes of the authorities, and that propositions to effect this operation are being now made to merchants of high position—when one knows all this, does it not appear trivial to expend time and trouble in fixing to a centime the value and rate on any particular class of goods?

But I have now indicated the danger by which we are surrounded, and must leave it in your Excellency's hands to decide by what means a remedy is to be applied.

It will be seen by the annexes accompanying the *procès-verbaux* that I have come to an agreement with the Ottoman Delegates as to the duties to be levied on numerous articles interesting British commerce.

In very many instances I have succeeded in obtaining considerable reductions on the values as estimated by the Ottoman Delegates, and I have induced them, in several cases, to rearrange the classifications, in order to avoid disputes in future between the importers and the Custom-house.

In order that the values now fixed may be ascertained and controlled, I beg leave to state that in Chapter 3, "Céréales," Chapter 16, "Combustibles," and Chapter 17, "Sels, Acides, et Oxydes," the duties are calculated at 8 per cent.; that in Chapter 2, "Aliments d'origine animale," and Chapter 4, "Produits de la meunerie, &c.," the rates range from 12 to 15 per cent., accordingly as the different articles are for the use of the poorer or the well-to-do classes.

The present despatch, in compliance with the instructions contained in your Excellency's communication of the 24th ultimo, may be considered as reporting my proceedings during the month of February, although the last *procès-verbal* has not yet reached me.

I have, &c.
(Signed) WILLIAM H. WRENCH.

Inclosure 2 in No. 21.

Procès-verbal No. 3.—Séance du 21 Janvier (2 Février), 1884.

LES Délégués des Gouvernements de Turquie et d'Angleterre se sont réunis aujourd'hui, 21 Janvier (2 Février), 1884.

Les Délégués Ottomans étaient assistés par Füschel Effendi, Chef des Commissions d'Évaluations.

Le procès-verbal de la séance précédente a été lu et approuvé.

Mr. Wrench annonce aux Délégués Ottomans qu'il a reçu de l'Ambassadeur de Sa Majesté Britannique des instructions concernant le taux de la taxe à arrêter pour le nouveau Tarif. D'après ces instructions, le Gouvernement de Sa Majesté approuve le principe adopté par la Porte à prélever sur la bijouterie et sur les pierres précieuses un droit ne dépassant pas 3 pour cent, et à maintenir le taux de 8 pour cent pour les produits bruts, les articles demi-ouvrés, les céréales, et les machines de toute espèce. Quant aux manufactures de cotonnerie et de lainerie ordinaires et aux autres articles de bas prix, le Gouvernement de Sa Majesté ne le considère pas utile de suggérer des taux plus élevés que de 8 à 10 pour cent sur la valeur de la masse des importations de chaque catégorie, et de 12 à 15 pour cent pour les qualités supérieures des marchandises Anglaises qui sont destinées à l'usage des classes aisées. Mr. Wrench en communiquant ce qui précède aux Délégués Ottomans se déclare chargé par son Excellence l'Ambassadeur de leur annoncer en même temps que, quoique le Gouvernement Britannique consent à cette augmentation des taux dans le but d'en faire profiter les revenus de la Turquie, son consentement est fait sur la foi de la mise en exécution des améliorations notifiées dans les diverses communications avec la Porte et dans l'exposé qui est annexé au projet de Tarif préparé par les Délégués Ottomans. Le Gouvernement Anglais compte par conséquent sur la mise à exécution d'une simplification des opérations Douanières, sur l'introduction d'un système de déclarations et sur l'établissement des entrepôts. Le Gouvernement de Sa Majesté Britannique entend aussi que le Gouvernement Ottoman abolira les droits de transit, ainsi que ceux de la Douane intérieure et d'exportation, vu que les frais de perception doivent de beaucoup surpasser les revenus provenant de ces taxes. A ce sujet, dit Mr. Wrench, son Excellence l'Ambassadeur le charge d'ajouter que le Gouvernement de Sa Majesté

apprend avec un vif regret qu'aucune amélioration ne se fait encore sentir dans l'administration des Douanes de la capitale et des provinces; que jusqu'à ce jour, des formalités compliquées et superflues existent et suscitent les entraves systématiques que rencontre le dédouanement des marchandises et qui ne cèdent que devant des paiements irréguliers; que les estimateurs, les peseurs et les employés de presque toutes les branches du service des Douanes favorisent ceux qui sont prêts à acheter leurs bonnes grâces, de sorte que les importateurs sont obligés d'avoir recours à des moyens inavouables pour introduire leurs marchandises, et que l'ancien système de corruption est aussi florissant que jamais; qu'en face d'un tel état de choses, le Gouvernement de Sa Majesté Britannique ne peut qu'envisager avec hésitation toute demande tendant à augmenter les frais sur la marchandise Anglaise, et que ce n'est que dans le ferme espoir qu'un commencement de réformes se fera voir sans perte de temps que le Gouvernement a autorisé la déclaration qui précède. Si pourtant cet espoir ne se trouve pas réalisé, l'Ambassadeur de Sa Majesté, ajoute Mr. Wrench, se verra dans la nécessité de conseiller à son Gouvernement une réconsidération de la décision prise et une entente avec les autres Puissances ayant à négocier des Traités de Commerce avec la Porte, sur l'utilité d'une action commune à ce sujet.

Les Délégués Ottomans expriment à leur collègue toute la peine qu'ils ont éprouvée en entendant les observations qu'il a cru nécessaire de faire au sujet des Douanes de l'Empire, et qui leur paraissent en dehors des questions de Traité et de Tarif que de part et d'autre ils ont pour mission de négocier. Ils déclarent, tout d'abord, que l'Administration serait en droit de ne pas s'arrêter à des accusations générales, attendu qu'elle a été toujours prête à faire droit aux plaintes du commerce et à punir sévèrement tous cas d'abus qui lui ont été spécialement dénoncés. Ils croient, néanmoins, que le but auquel vise le Gouvernement Ottoman, en demandant la modification du régime actuel, n'a pas été suffisamment apprécié. On ne pourrait sans doute lui faire un tort d'avoir voulu se procurer de nouvelles recettes par un remaniement des taux des droits d'importation, attendu que ces taux sont restés absolument les mêmes depuis plus de vingt et un ans. Mais le principal objet que poursuit le Gouvernement, c'est l'amélioration du système Douanier et par là l'amélioration de l'Administration. Le régime inextricablement compliqué auquel ont donné naissance les onze Tarifs séparés appliqués à l'égard des provenances de chaque État, la défectuosité des définitions de ces Tarifs, le grand nombre d'articles taxés à la valeur, l'incompatibilité d'une perception étendue *ad valorem* avec une bonne Administration, enfin l'arbitraire et les inconvénients de tous genres auxquels un pareil régime doit nécessairement prêter, avaient été déjà clairement expliqués et unanimement reconnus. Il est hors de doute qu'avec un pareil régime le commerce doit souffrir, que l'Administration devra entretenir un personnel trop nombreux et partant insuffisamment payé. Le Gouvernement Ottoman avait tenté, soit à l'occasion de la révision des Tarifs, soit à la quatorzième année du Traité, à se créer des bases plus stables, mais ses efforts avaient échoués devant les résistances qu'il a rencontrées. Les mesures les plus élémentaires de contrôle avaient dû être maintes fois abandonnées devant des objections formulées avec plus ou moins de raison au nom des Conventions existantes. Où en seraient les Administrations les mieux constituées si le régime en vigueur jusqu'au 1er Mars dernier, ou si un système de taxation presque général *ad valorem* comme aujourd'hui leur était imposé?

Les Délégués Ottomans, après avoir entendu les déclarations de Mr. Wrench, observent que leur Gouvernement a déjà proposé aux Puissances l'abolition des droits de transit; qu'il a depuis dix ans aboli de sa propre initiative les droits de Douane intérieure proprement dits, c'est-à-dire, ceux qui étaient perçus sur les produits et marchandises circulant entre le littoral et les frontières de terre; que, en ce qui concerne les droits qui grèvent actuellement les transports par mer d'une échelle à l'autre, ils n'ont aucune instruction pour traiter avec les Délégués étrangers cette question d'administration intérieure, mais que, d'après leurs connaissances personnelles, qui naturellement n'engageraient en rien leur Gouvernement, et qui ne sauraient en aucune façon restreindre son entière liberté d'action dans cette question, ils pouvaient faire observer que le Gouvernement Impérial avait à la même époque pensé également à la suppression des droits qui grèvent les circulations par mer, mais qu'il s'était arrêté alors devant un sacrifice supplémentaire de £ T. 500,000 que cette seconde mesure aurait entraîné; que, se prévalant il y a huit ans d'une clause spéciale des Traités de Commerce, il avait à la fin de la quatorzième année demandé à modifier le régime Douanier dans un sens analogue à celui qu'il propose maintenant, afin de suppléer par une augmentation des droits d'importation au déficit qui résulterait de la suppression des Douanes intérieures, et que n'étaient-ce les difficultés malheureusement suscitées

alors, cette seconde mesure aussi aurait été mise à exécution comme la première. Quant à la question de la suppression des droits d'exportation, les Délégués Ottomans croient ne pouvoir faire aucune démarche à ce sujet auprès de leur Gouvernement, aussi longtemps qu'ils ne seront pas mis en état de lui donner l'assurance que par le remaniement des droits d'importation ils ont réellement obtenu un excédent suffisant, et ils pensent que cet excédent ne pourra pas être garanti par l'acceptation des taux que le Gouvernement Britannique croit utile de suggérer. L'Administration n'a pas manqué dans ces derniers temps de faire un choix plus strict du personnel, d'affecter annuellement une somme assez considérable par rapport aux recettes, pour augmenter le traitement des employés, et une autre somme aussi considérable pour l'amélioration des locaux et magasins de Douane. Néanmoins, il faut absolument reconnaître que quels que soient les matériaux dont on veuille se servir, et quelles que soient les mesures que l'on prenne, l'édifice ne pourra être aussi solidement fondé qu'on le désire, tant que l'on bâtira sur le fond de l'état de choses actuelles.

Les Délégués Ottomans terminent en formulant l'espoir que leur collègue parviendra à faire reconnaître la justesse de leurs observations, et ils répètent que la suppression des abus est le plus vif désir de l'Administration des Douanes; aussi ils prient leur collègue d'inviter ses administrés à porter plainte dans tout cas de malversations et d'illégalités commises de la part d'un employé Douanier quelconque en refusant toute demande illégale, et l'assurent que l'Administration Générale ne manquera pas de donner promptement suite à de telles réclamations justifiées.

Les Délégués Ottomans ajoutent que malheureusement d'après leur propre expérience un assez grand nombre de commerçants, au lieu de procéder de cette façon, n'ont même pas voulu prêter l'assistance nécessaire lorque l'Administration de sa propre initiative leur a demandé les éléments de constatation nécessaires qu'ils avaient en leur possession.

Mr. Wrench prie ses collègues de croire qu'il n'a nullement en vue d'entrer en polémique et que c'est à contre-cœur qu'il relève ce qui dans leurs arguments lui a paru contraire au but qu'il poursuit en commun avec eux. Il prend acte de la déclaration de ses honorables collègues concernant l'abolition des droits de transit; toutefois, il croit devoir leur faire observer que cette facilitation ne serait qu'illusoire, si des magasins d'entrepôts affectés aux marchandises en transit n'étaient pas construits dans un bref délai. En ce qui concerne les Douanes intérieures, il est étonné de voir se manifester dans les circonstances actuelles l'intention de maintenir une institution condamnée par l'expérience.

La question des Douanes intérieures n'est pas locale et intérieure: la surtaxe qui en résulte augmente le prix des marchandises, et occasionne une diminution dans l'importation des articles Européens sur le marché Ottoman. En d'autres termes, cette institution, si elle devait être maintenue en Turquie, éterniserait les entraves qui ont paralysé l'importation et partant le commerce extérieur et général.

Les réserves faites par ses honorables collègues à propos du droit d'exportation l'ont également surpris; il semblerait que le Gouvernement Impérial n'a eu vue qu'une augmentation immédiate de ses revenus; car si le contraire était vrai, c'est-à-dire si l'on visait en même temps à l'obtention d'un système Douanier autant que possible irréprochable, on ne se préoccuperait pas d'obtenir un excédent de recettes avant d'abolir le droit d'exportation; en cherchant un système, on doit en adopter le plus parfait, sans se préoccuper de ses conséquences immédiates; car on est sûr que, par son application intelligente et bien entendue, on arrivera au second desideratum, qui est l'augmentation des revenus. Il ne lui reste qu'à dire deux mots à propos de l'appréciation de ses honorables collègues sur le passé et sur le personnel des Douanes de l'Empire. Il est de notoriété publique que, sauf quelques honorables exceptions, le personnel en question est tel qu'il l'a dépeint. Il est également admis que, malgré le système que l'on veut abolir et tout en conservant la taxation que l'on veut augmenter, le Gouvernement Impérial n'avait qu'à mieux diriger ses Douanes et en moraliser le personnel pour obtenir immédiatement une augmentation des revenus. Pour ce qui concerne le rôle de ses négociants, il est obligé de rappeler à ses honorables collègues que le commerçant proteste et a recours aux autorités supérieures des Douanes dans des pays où les abus forment l'exception; il ne faut pas prétendre que le commerçant étranger puisse servir de délateur, même si un profit devait en résulter pour son commerce.

Les Délégués Ottomans observent que l'abolition du droit de transit constitue une partie de l'ensemble des propositions faites par le Gouvernement Impérial en vue du changement du système Douanier; ils maintiennent que les droits de consommation ou de fabrication actuellement en vigueur ne sauraient être considérés que

comme une question purement administrative; que leur Gouvernement aurait pleinement raison de s'assurer de quelques nouvelles recettes avant d'entrer dans la voie des affranchissements; qu'en ce qui concerne le personnel, tout en ne partageant pas les vues de leur collègue, ils croient ne devoir rien ajouter à leurs premières observations.

Ensuite les Délégués ont examiné le No. 17 du Projet de Tarif et sont tombés d'accord sur les résultats fixés dans l'annexe, en réservant pour la prochaine séance le reste des articles de ce numéro.

(Signé) E. BERTRAM.
MICHAEL PORTUGAL.
WILLIAM H. WRENCH.

Pour copie conforme:
Le Secrétaire,
(Signé) J. P. VAZZIDIS.

Annexe au Procès-verbal No. 3.

17. SELS, ACIDES, ET OXYDES.

Dénomination des Marchandises.		Droit, piastres or.
		Prs. c.
Soude (carbonate de soude)—		
(a.) Brute ou cristallisée	100 kilog. ..	4 40
(b.) Calcinée	" ..	8 00
Salpêtre du Chili (nitrate de soude)	" ..	16 00
Prussiate de potasse—		
(a.) Jaune	" ..	88 00
(b.) Rouge	" ..	176 00
Chromate de potasse	" ..	48 00
Chlorate de potasse	" ..	56 00
Muriate de potasse	" ..	8 00
Chlorure de chaux	" ..	6 50
Chlorure de magnésium	" ..	12 00
Sulfate de soude (sel de Glauber) et sulfate de magnésie—		
(a.) Brut	" ..	5 00
(b.) Raffiné	" ..	12 00
Alums—		
(a.) Bruts	" ..	5 00
(b.) Raffinés ou calcinés	" ..	24 00
Sulfate de quinine et autres préparations de quinine et de morphine	Le kilog. ..	100 00
	100 kilog. ..	56 00
Carbonate d'ammoniaque	" ..	40 00
Sel ammoniac (chlorhydrate d'ammoniaque)	" ..	20 00
Ammoniac liquide	" ..	8 00
Sulfates de fer et de cuivre mélangés; de cuivre, de zinc (vitriols), et autres sulfates non-dénommés ..	" ..	20 00
Acide nitrique	" ..	5 00
Acide muriatique ou chlorhydrique	" ..	24 00
Tartre brut	" ..	104 00
Crème de tartre	" ..	200 00
Acide citrique	" ..	144 00
Acide tartrique	" ..	20 00
Minium	" ..	20 00
Arsénic, acides arsénique et arsénieux	" ..	48 00
Acide oxalique	" ..	6 00
Acide sulfurique	" ..	52 00
Borax	" ..	24 00
Acide borique	" ..	Prohibé.
Sel de cuisine (marin et sel gemme)	..	
Tous autres sels, acides, oxydes, et produits chimiques, non-dénommés ailleurs	" ..	45 00

(Signé) E. BERTRAM.
MICHAEL PORTUGAL.
WILLIAM H. WRENCH.

Pour copie conforme:
Le Secrétaire,
(Signé) J. P. VAZZIDIS.

Inclosure 3 in No. 21.

Procès-verbal No. 4.—Séance du 31 Janvier (12 Février), 1884.

LES Délégués des Gouvernements d'Angleterre et de Turquie se sont réunis aujourd'hui, 31 Janvier (12 Février), 1884.

Les Délégués Ottomans étaient assistés par Püschel Effendi, Chef des Commissions d'Évaluations.

Le procès-verbal de la séance précédente a été lu et approuvé.

Les Délégués ont délibéré sur quelques Articles réservés du No. 17, et sur le groupe No. 2 du Projet de Tarif, et sont tombés d'accord sur les résultats fixés dans l'annexe.

(Signé) WILLIAM H. WRENCH.
E. BERTRAM.
MICHAEL PORTUGAL.

Pour copie conforme:
Le Secrétaire,
(Signé) J. P. VAZZIDIS.

Annexe au Procès-verbal No. 4.

17. Sels, Acides, et Oxydes (*suite*).

Dénomination des Marchandises.		Droit, piastres or.
		Prs. c.
Potasse (carbonate de potasse)—		
(*a.*) Brute	100 kilog.	12 00
(*b.*) Pure, cristallisée ou calcinée	"	32 00
Potasse caustique—		
(*a.*) Liquide	"	20 00
(*b.*) Cristallisée	"	46 00
Salpêtre (nitrate de potasse)		Prohibé.
Sulfure d'arsénic (orpiment, réalgar)	100 kilog.	32 00

2. Aliments d'origine Animale.

Viande fraîche et salée	100 kilog.	60 00
Jambons; saucisses, langues de bœuf; conserves de viande dans des récipients hermétiquement fermés	"	150 00
Lard	"	140 00
Autres viandes fumées ou séchées	"	120 00
Volailles tuées; gibier mort	"	150 00
Extrait de viande	"	750 00
Graisse de porc et d'oie	"	120 00
Beurre—		
(*a.*) Frais et salé	"	180 00
(*b.*) Beurre de Sibérie et beurre artificiel	"	120 00
Tchervich	"	100 00
Fromage—		
(*a.*) Salamouri, kachkaval, kacher, touloum	"	75 00
(*b.*) Autres	"	140 00
Lait—		
(*a.*) Frais ou caillé	"	20 00
(*b.*) Crème de lait	"	200 00
Œufs	"	90 00
Poissons—		
(*a.*) Frais, vivants ou morts	"	60 00
(*b.*) Harengs salés	"	30 00
(*c.*) Sardines en fûts	"	65 00
(*d.*) Morina, nevressi et meraïn sés	"	375 00
(*e.*) Autres poissons salés, en fûts	"	85 00
(*f.*) Morue (stockfish)	"	45 00
(*g.*) Autres poissons séchés ou fumés	"	85 00
Boutargo	"	675 00
Caviar—		
(*a.*) Noir	"	450 00
(*b.*) Rouge (tarama)	"	30 00
(*c.*) Rouge (dil)	"	45 00
Huîtres—		
(*a.*) Fraîches	Les 1,000 pièces	30 00
(*b.*) Marinées	100 kilog.	225 00
Autres mollusques frais ou salés	"	150 00
Tortues, vivantes ou mortes	"	180 00
Limaçons	"	30 00
Miel	"	00 00
Tous autres aliments d'origine animale, frais, salés, fumés ou séchés	"	180 00
Conserves dans des récipients hermétiquement fermés, non-dénommées ci-dessus. (Voir No. 11.)		

(Signé) WILLIAM H. WRENCH.
E. BERTRAM.
MICHAEL PORTUGAL.

Pour copie conforme:
Le Secrétaire,
(Signé) J. P. Vazzidis.

Inclosure 4 in No. 21.

Procès-verbal No. 5.—Séance du 7 (19) Février, 1884.

LES Délégués des Gouvernements de Turquie et d'Angleterre se sont réunis aujourd'hui 7 (19) Février, 1884.

Les Délégués Ottomans étaient assistés par Püschel Effendi, Chef des Commissions d'Évaluations.

Le procès-verbal de la séance précédente a été lu et approuvé.

Les Délégués ont examiné les Nos. 3, 4, et 16 du Projet de Tarif et sont tombés d'accord sur les résultats fixés dans l'annexe.

(Signé) E. BERTRAM.
MICHAEL PORTUGAL.
WILLIAM H. WRENCH.

Pour copie conforme:
Le Secrétaire,
(Signé) J. P. Vazzidis.

Annexe au Procès-verbal No. 5.

3. Céréales, Légumineuses, Pommes de Terre.

Dénomination des Marchandises.		Droit, piastres or.
		Prs. c.
Froment, épeautre, sarrasin, méteil	100 kilog.	9 00
Avoine; orge et kaplidja; seigle	"	5 00
Maïs	"	5 60
Millet	"	4 80
Pois chiches, fèves, haricots secs, pois, lentilles et autres légumes farineux secs	"	8 00
Pommes de terre, patates	"	5 00

4. Produits de la Meunerie et Pâtisserie Ordinaire.

Amidon et poudre d'amidon	100 kilog.	36 00
Arrowroot	"	84 00
Sagou, tapioca, et ses équivalents	"	45 00
Vermicelles, macaronis, pâtes dites d'Italie	"	45 00
Pain	"	15 00
Pain azyme	"	45 00
Biscuits de mer, galettes et autres pâtisseries communes	"	25 00

16. Combustibles.

Houille	100 kilog.	0 84
Lignites et autres combustibles minéraux	"	0 56
Coke	"	1 60
Bois de chauffage	"	0 48
Charbons de bois	"	2 80
Tourbe et charbon de tourbe	"	0 48

(Signé) E. BERTRAM.
MICHAEL PORTUGAL.
WILLIAM H. WRENCH.

Pour copie conforme:
Le Secrétaire,
(Signé) J. P. Vazzidis.

No. 22.

Earl Granville to the Earl of Dufferin.

(No. 35. Commercial.)

Foreign Office, March 20, 1884.

My Lord,

HER Majesty's Government have had under consideration your Excellency's despatch No. 45, Commercial, of the 7th instant, inclosing a note from Aarifi Pasha, in which it is contended that the Commercial Treaty of 1861 rendered void the commercial clauses of all previous Treaties and Capitulations, and that its termination has further put an end to Treaty engagements on the part of Turkey to grant most-favoured-nation treatment to this country.

Her Majesty's Government were certainly quite unprepared for so unprecedented and novel a view of the character and effect of the Capitulations. The question raised in the Turkish note is one which Her Majesty's Government are not disposed to discuss, for the present, as it goes to the root of the relations between the Porte and foreign Powers, and affects all those Powers alike. I have only to state that, in the opinion of Her Majesty's Government, the Capitulations are perpetual in their nature and character, though temporarily suspended from time to time in certain respects by the provisions of Treaties of limited duration dealing with particular matters.

In the event of such Treaties not being renewed at their expiration, the operation of the Capitulations revives as regards matters dealt with by the lapsed Treaties; and I need hardly add that the right of Her Majesty's Government to most-favoured-nation treatment, at all times and in all matters, is one which has never yet been disputed, and which Her Majesty's Government do not intend to relinquish.

I have to request that your Excellency will reply in these terms to Aarifi Pasha's note of the 5th instant.

I am, &c.

(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 23.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(Received March 22.)

(No. 50. Commercial. Confidential.)

Constantinople, March 18, 1884.

My Lord,

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship the accompanying copy of a note recently addressed by Baron Calice to the Ottoman Minister for Foreign Affairs on the subject of the commercial relations between Austria and Turkey.

I have, &c.

(Signed) DUFFERIN.

Inclosure in No. 23.

Baron Calice to Aarifi Pasha.

Constantinople le 8 *Mars*, 1884.

M. le Ministre,

L'AMBASSADE Impériale et Royale s'est empressée de transmettre à son Excellence le Comte Kálnoky, Ministre Impérial et Royal des Affaires Étrangères la note du 16 Février, par laquelle votre Altesse m'a fait l'honneur de répondre à mes deux notes du 13 Novembre et 9 Décembre, relatives au traitement du commerce Austro-Hongrois sous le régime Douanier existant.

Votre Altesse a bien voulu tout d'abord observer qu'en formulant les propositions contenues dans la note du 5 Juillet, 1883, la Sublime Porte a usé d'un droit qui lui a été conféré par l'Article XX du Traité de 1862. Ce droit ne saurait être contesté. Il est clairement défini par l'Article susdit et n'implique pas pour l'autre Partie Contractante d'accepter les propositions en question. Ceci établi, et me confirmant aux instructions du Gouvernement Impérial et Royal, je dois maintenir dans toute son étendue le privilège de la nation la plus favorisée qui nous appartient, ainsi qu'il a été démontré pas mes notes précédentes, dont il ressort à l'évidence que notre demande relativement au traitement du commerce Austro-Hongrois est fondée sur un droit incontestable. Ce privilège ne saurait être infirmé par les considérations développées dans la note de votre Altesse, lesquelles fait abstraction du point de vue strictement légal, ainsi que de celui de l'équité que nous pouvons également invoquer.

Toutefois, le Gouvernement Impérial et Royal serait tout disposé à prendre en considération les difficultés pratiques qui pourraient résulter pour le service des Douanes Ottomanes de l'application du régime que nous réclamons, et, par conséquent, de ne pas y insister davantage à condition que la Sublime Porte, conformément à l'offre contenu dans la note susmentionnée, veuille bien appliquer, sans aucun retard, et jusqu'à la conclusion d'un nouveau Tarif, aux marchandises de provenance Austro-Hongrois le droit de 8 pour cent *ad valorem*, à l'exception cependant des verreries, relativement auxquelles les dispositions du Tarif actuel resteraient en vigueur.

Le Gouvernement Impérial et Royal s'inspirant toujours des sentiments amicaux qui président aux relations des deux Empires, pouvait, en outre, par des concessions à l'occasion de la révision du Tarif Austro-Turc et tout en maintenant la base du Traité en vigueur, faire tout ce qui dépend de lui pour faciliter la tâche économique que le Gouvernement Ottoman s'est donnée, à savoir: celle d'augmenter ses revenus Douaniers.

Ces concessions lui seraient interdites dans le cas où la proposition ci-dessus indiquée ne serait pas promptement acceptée, attendu qu'une plus longue durée du traitement préjudiciable et injuste que subit actuellement notre commerce indisposerait à bonne raison l'opinion publique dans la Monarchie Austro-Hongroise et nous placerait, à notre grand regret, dans l'impossibilité d'user envers les intérêts de la Douane Ottomane, les égards que nous désirerions avoir. Dès lors, la révision du Tarif Austro-Turc pour la dernière période de la durée du Traité existant, à savoir: jusqu'au mois de Juillet 1890, ne pourrait dépasser les limites d'un pur travail de calcul ayant pour but de conformer les droits spécifiques de 8 pour cent à la valeur actuelle des marchandises.

Finalement, je m'empresse d'informer votre Altesse qu'aussitôt que la note responsive à ma présente communication me sera parvenue, le Délégué du Gouvernement Impérial et Royal pour les pourparlers dont il s'agit pourra être désigné.

Je saisis, &c.

(Signé) CALICE.

No. 24.

Consul Wrench to Earl Granville.—(Received March 26.)

Constantinople, March 19, 1884.

My Lord,

I HAVE had the honour to receive your Excellency's despatch of the 11th instant, inclosing a printed copy of Mr. Consul-General Blunt's Report on the junction of the Turkish with the Servian and Austrian railway systems.

Your Excellency calls my attention to a paragraph in this Report, to the effect that the importers of British goods at Salonica are anxious that in the new Anglo-Turkish Tariff *ad valorem* duties should be substituted for the heavy specific duties charged under the old Tariff; that duties on cotton manufactures should not exceed 10 per cent., payable in kind, if the value of the goods be disputed; and further, that Turkey should form bonded warehouses at Salonica.

With reference to these observations, I would venture to remark that the very foundation of the uniform Tariff now under negotiation is the abolition of *ad valorem* duties, and the consequent payment of dues in kind. This was shown in Article 1 of the Ottoman propositions for a new Commercial Treaty, forwarded by the Porte to your Excellency on the 8th July, 1882. In the Report I inclosed in despatch to Mr. Wyndham of the 22nd December, 1882, I expressed the opinion of the resident traders in British goods to the effect that, under existing circumstances, the only principle to adopt is, as far as possible, that of fixed duties.

This opinion, which I endorsed in my Report, appears to be at variance with the wishes of the Salonica merchants; but I would observe (1) that the principle of specific duties has been admitted by those Powers—England, Russia, and Germany—which are engaged, through their respective Delegates, in negotiating a new Tariff, the primary condition of which is that of specific duties, and that, as far as I am informed, none of the other Powers have advocated *ad valorem* duties as a permanent system. Consequently, it would now be late in the day to propose so radical a change of principle; (2) that were a proposition to this effect made, the Ottoman Government, having acquired during the last year an intimate knowledge of the loss it has sustained by the application of *ad valorem* duties, and by the taking of merchandize in kind, would never agree even to discuss its permanent introduction; and (3) supposing even

that arguments could be adduced which secured its adoption, all hope of custom-house reform would have to be abandoned under a system which, as we have had practical proof, fosters abuses and demoralizes both Custom-house officials and the mercantile community.

In a word, so long as Turkey exists under its present rulers, so long should the power of levying duties *ad valorem* be denied to it.

With regard to the rate of 10 per cent. advocated by the Salonica merchants, I have only to remark that the discussion of duties on cotton goods has not yet commenced, but that when it does I shall be strictly guided by the instructions I have received from your Excellency.

The question of bonded warehouses is now occupying the attention of the Ottoman Delegates, who have not yet completed their study of the subject. I am, however, in a position to state that the erection of these warehouses at Salonica forms part of their plan.

Her Majesty's Government have received so many able Reports on the general subject of Mr. Blunt's despatch, that I cannot hope to add further to the information acquired.

I have, &c.
(Signed) WILLIAM H. WRENCH.

No. 25.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(*Received March* 26.)

(No. 59. Commercial. Confidential.)

Constantinople, March 20, 1884.

My Lord,

AS it is desirable that your Lordship should be kept informed of the progress of the varying phases of the commercial relations between Turkey and the other Continental Powers, I beg leave, in continuation of my previous despatch No. 11, Commercial, of the 12th ultimo, to lay before you a résumé of the present position of the question of the Treaties of Commerce, for which I have been indebted to the industry of Mr. Stavridès.

In its note of the 5th instant, a copy of which was inclosed in my despatch No. 45 of the 7th instant, the Sublime Porte stated in detail, and, it must be admitted, in an exceedingly able manner, the views held by the Ottoman Government with respect to the Commercial Treaties which were liable to be, and have been, denounced, and it has, I am informed, held the same language to all the other Powers who have Treaties with Turkey belonging to that category.

Your Lordship will have seen that in the above note the Sublime Porte does not admit that its action is in any way limited by the provisions of the old Treaties and the Capitulations.

It places itself, in this respect, in the position of a European State who has concluded a Treaty of Commerce with another Power, and says: "The Treaty concluded between us having expired, our commercial relations can now only be governed by international law, that is to say, we have the right to tax your merchandize in accordance with our own interests and our own convenience."

Such a right in the case of a European State would be indisputable, but it cannot be said to be so in the case of Turkey, for her action is restricted by the Capitulations, whose validity in point of time is unlimited.

In any case, the clause in the Capitulations relating to the most-favoured-nation treatment has never been abrogated, and, according to that clause, Turkey has no right to treat England, or any other Power, in a similar position, in a different manner to that in which she treats other nations whose Treaties have not yet expired.

Such is the actual position of the Treaties which have been already denounced.

As regards the position of the Powers whose Treaties have not yet expired, I have been able to gather the following information:—

The position of Germany remains unchanged, being to the best of my belief the same at the present moment as when described by Mr. Stavridès in his Memorandum of the 27th December, 1883.

As regards Austria, on the 5th July last the Sublime Porte communicated to the Austrian Embassy the same proposals as it had made to the other foreign Missions as

the bases of the new Treaties of Commerce, with this difference, that they were presented in the form of modifications to be introduced into the Austrian Treaty of Commerce, in conformity with the provisions of Article XX of that Treaty.

On the 13th November last Baron Calice addressed a note to the Sublime Porte protesting against the inequality of treatment to which Austrian goods were subjected owing to the abolition of most of the existing Tariffs, and the almost general introduction of the system of 8 per cent. *ad valorem* duties. The note added that such a state of things was highly prejudicial to Austrian commerce, and invoked the privilege of the most-favoured-nation clause, demanding for Austrian subjects the right to choose in each special case between the Austrian Tariff, which was to remain in force until June 1884, and the 8 per cent. *ad valorem* system.

This communication remained for a long time unanswered; the Austrian Embassy, therefore, in a note dated the 9th December last, informed the Sublime Porte that until this right to choose between the two systems was accorded to its subjects, it would be difficult for the Austrian Government to communicate its views upon the proposals made by the Sublime Porte as regards the Treaty of Commerce, adding that the Austrian Government considered itself in no way bound to take these proposals into consideration.

In a note dated the 16th ultimo, the Sublime Porte replied that the treatment which the Austrian Embassy desired to obtain in favour of Austrian merchandize imported into Turkey would, if granted, constitute an innovation of a nature entirely opposed to the commercial traditions of the Ottoman Empire, and would create a new privilege which had hitherto been enjoyed by no other Power. This being the case, the Sublime Porte felt bound to maintain its right to keep to the provisions of the existing Tariff until the date of its lapse. In any case, the note added, it would be impossible for the Sublime Porte to consent to an arrangement by which the Tariff would continue to be applied in cases where it was prejudicial to the Turkish revenue, and be set on one side when it was favourable. The note concluded, however, by stating that, moved by a desire to act in a conciliatory spirit, the Sublime Porte would meet the wishes of the Austrian Government and apply the 8 per cent. *ad valorem* duty to all Austrian goods, on the condition that the Austrian Government should, on its side, engage to enter immediately upon the negotiation of a new Treaty and a new Tariff.

The Austrian Embassy replied to this note on the 8th instant. It stated that it admitted that the Sublime Porte, in making the proposals contained in its note of the 5th July, 1883, had been strictly within the right conferred upon it by Article XX of the Treaty of 1862, but it contended that the said Article implied no obligation on the part of the other Contracting Party to accept those proposals. Consequently, it maintained its demand for the full benefit of the most-favoured-nation clause, to which it was entitled by right, and its claim to which had not been invalidated by the considerations put forward in the Sublime Porte's note.

Baron Calice, however, added that the Austrian Government was disposed to take into consideration the material difficulties which the application of the régime it had demanded might entail upon the customs service, and that consequently it would not persist in that demand, on condition that the Sublime Porte should apply immediately, and until the conclusion of a new Tariff, the 8 per cent. *ad valorem* duty to all Austrian merchandize, with the exception of glass-ware, which should still be taxed in accordance with the provisions of the existing Tariff. His Excellency added that his Government, bearing in mind the friendly relations which existed between the two Empires, would, by concessions on the occasion of the revision of the Tariff, do all in its power, whilst maintaining the basis of the existing Treaty, to facilitate the financial operations undertaken by the Ottoman Government. These concessions, however, were to be entirely dependent upon the prompt acceptance by the Sublime Porte of the above proposal.

His Excellency proceeded to say that immediately that question was settled the revision of the Austro-Turkish Tariff would become a simple matter of calculation, and consideration as to the best manner of adapting the specific duties of the 8 per cent. *ad valorem* system to the actual value of the goods imported.

In conclusion, Baron Calice stated that as soon as a favourable reply was received to his communication no time would be lost in the appointment of an Austrian Delegate for the negotiation of a new Tariff.

No reply to this note has as yet been received.

As regards France, it appears that on the 15th ultimo the French Embassy

addressed a note to the Sublime Porte, demanding for its subjects the right to choose between the 1861 Tariff and the 8 per cent. *ad valorem* system. The note, however, has up to the present moment also remained unanswered.

I have, &c.
(Signed) DUFFERIN.

No. 26.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(Received April 5.)

(No. 66. Commercial.)

Constantinople, March 31, 1884.

My Lord,

I HAVE the honour to forward a despatch from Mr. Wrench, inclosing the *procès-verbaux* of the sixth, seventh, and eighth meetings of the Commission charged with the negotiation of a new Commercial Tariff, together with their respective annexes.

Your Lordship will observe that the two annexes of the 7th and 8th *procès-verbaux* contain a list of goods upon which, for fiscal reasons, the Ottoman Government wishes to levy a 20 per cent. duty; but as my instructions limited Mr. Wrench to a maximum of 15 per cent., he found himself unable to acquiesce in the proposals of the Turkish Commissioners.

The articles referred to comprise tea, coffee, cocoa, wines and spirits. I gather from Mr. Wrench's despatch that he is inclined to consider that, inasmuch as we ourselves for fiscal purposes place a high duty on these very articles, some concession should be made upon the point in the interests of the Imperial revenue, more especially as even at the rate of 20 per cent. as proposed by the Ottoman Commissioners, the tax upon raw coffee would only amount to 10s. 2½*d.* a hundredweight; on cocoa to about two-thirds of a penny per pound, and on tea to 4*d.* per pound, while neither upon wines nor spirits would the proposed tax be excessive.

Mr. Wrench adds that he has reason to believe that the German Delegate has suggested to his Government that this question should be settled in the sense desired by the Turks.

I have, &c.
(Signed) DUFFERIN.

Inclosure 1 in No. 26.

Consul Wrench to the Earl of Dufferin.

Constantinople, March 28, 1884.

My Lord,

I HAVE the honour herein to transmit copies of the *procès-verbaux* of the sixth, seventh, and eighth meetings of the Commission charged with the negotiation of a new Commercial Tariff, together with their respective annexes.

The duties on the articles mentioned in the annex to the 6th *procès-verbal* have been fixed at the following rates:—In Chapter 3 "riz" is at 8 per cent., and the "fruits et légumes" and "épices" in Chapters 5 and 6 are at 15 per cent.

In Annex (A) to the 7th *procès-verbal* the duties on "produits de la meunerie et pâtisserie ordinaire (suite)" Chapter 4, are calculated at 15 per cent. on average values.

In Annex (A) to the 8th *procès-verbal* under Chapter 0 "eaux minérales ou gazeuses en bouteilles," the rate of duty is at 8 per cent., as also are those for "semences et plantes, &c.," Chapter 14, and for "engrais et déchets," Chapter 15. The rates for "huiles pour la consommation humaine," Chapter 10, and "confitures, &c.," Chapter 11, represent 15 per cent.

I have at length come to an understanding with my colleagues with respect to caustic soda, and have induced them to reconsider the price fixed on soda ash in the third meeting of the Commission; the duties now fixed for these articles are at the rate of 8 per cent. on value.

The two Annexes (B) to the 7th and 8th *procès-verbaux* contain a list of goods upon which, for fiscal reasons, the Ottoman Government wishes to levy a 20 per cent. duty, and my Ottoman colleagues have requested me to endeavour to obtain the consent of Her Majesty's Government to the measure. Were England to agree to this proposal,

raw coffee would be taxed at the rate of 10s. 2½*d.* per cwt., cocoa at about 1½*d.* per lb., and tea at nearly 4*d.* per lb. The tax on wines and spirits would not be excessive.

I have reason to believe that the German Delegate has reported favourably to his Government on this question, and expects shortly to receive authority to agree to the proposal of the Ottoman authorities.

I have, &c.
(Signed) WILLIAM H. WRENCH.

Inclosure 2 in No. 26.

Procès-verbal No. 6.—Séance du 14 (26) *Février*, 1884.

LES Délégués des Gouvernements d'Angleterre et de Turquie se sont réunis aujourd'hui le 14 (26) Février, 1884.

Les Délégués Ottomans étaient assistés par Püschel Effendi, Chef des Commissions d'Évaluations.

Le procès-verbal de la séance précédente a été lu et approuvé.

Les Délégués ont examiné le reste du No. 3 et les Nos. 5 et 6 du Projet de Tarif et sont tombés d'accord sur les résultats fixés dans l'annexe.

(Signé) WILLIAM H. WRENCH.
E. BERTRAM.
MICHAEL PORTUGAL.

Pour copie conforme:
Le Secrétaire,
(Signé) J. P. VAZZIDIS.

Annexe au Procès-verbal No. 6.

3. Céréales, Légumineuses, Pommes de Terre (*suite*).

Dénomination des Marchandises.		Droit, piastres or.
		Prs. c.
Riz	100 kilog. ..	10 80*
4. Fruits et Légumes.		
Fruits frais—		
(*a.*) Raisin, oranges, citrons	100 kilog. ..	18 75
(*b.*) Olives, pommes, poires, et autres fruits frais non dénommés	„ ..	37 50
Fruits secs—		
(*a.*) Figues	„ ..	30 00
(*b.*) Raisins	„ ..	45 00
(*c.*) Amandes, pistaches	„ ..	90 00
(*d.*) Pépins de citrouille	„ ..	30 00
(*e.*) Noix et noisettes	„ ..	22 50
(*f.*) Caroubes	„ ..	9 00
(*g.*) Dattes	„ ..	45 00
(*h.*) Autres fruits secs, non dénommés	„ ..	45 00
Légumes frais—		
(*a.*) Oignons	„ ..	4 50
(*b.*) Ail	„ ..	15 00
(*c.*) Autres légumes frais non dénommés	„ ..	15 00
Légumes secs	„ ..	30 00
Fruits et légumes secs, grillés, en poudre, cuits à l'eau ou salés	„ ..	30 00
Sucs et jus comestibles des fruits de baies et de raves, bouillis sans sucre	„ ..	45 00
Écorces d'orange, fraîches ou desséchées	„ ..	30 00
5. Épices.		
Anis, graine de fenouil, cumin, coriandre, graine de moutarde	100 kilog. ..	37 50
Houblon	„ ..	110 00
Poivre noir et rouge, piment, quatre épices, gingembre ..	„ ..	90 00
Bois de cassia (*cassia lignea*) et cannelle	„ ..	75 00
Fleur de cannelle	„ ..	180 00
Cardamomes	„ ..	750 00
Noix muscade et fleur de moutarde	„ ..	450 00
Girofle	„ ..	150 00
Vanille, safran	„ ..	3,000 00
Câpres, non compris au No. 11	„ ..	45 00
Épices non dénommées	„ ..	150 00

(Signé) WILLIAM H. WRENCH.
E. BERTRAM.
MICHAEL PORTUGAL.

Pour copie conforme:
Le Secrétaire,
(Signé) J. P. Vazzidis.

Inclosure 3 in No. 26.

Procès-verbal No. 7.—Séance du 28 *Février* (11 *Mars*), 1884.

LES Délégués des Gouvernements de Turquie et d'Angleterre se sont réunis aujourd'hui le 28 Février (11 Mars), 1884.

Les Délégués Ottomans étaient assistés par Püschel Effendi, Chef des Commissions d'Évaluations.

Le procès-verbal de la séance précédente a été lu et approuvé.

Les Délégués ont continué l'examen du No. 4 du Projet de Tarif et sont tombés d'accord sur les résultats fixés dans l'Annexe (A).

Quant aux Articles de l'Annexe (B), les Délégués Ottomans ont insisté sur le taux de 20 pour cent, attendu que ces articles sont considérés partout comme des articles

* Effacé le nombre "80" et remplacé par le nombre "50."

fiscaux et frappés en conséquence de droits[a] élevés. Mr. Wrench a déclaré que, vu les instructions qu'il avait reçues, il ne pouvait aller au delà de 15 pour cent, mais il a promis de soumettre cette divergence à son Excellence l'Ambassadeur de Sa Majesté Britannique; par conséquent, les Délégués se sont contentés de fixer pour le moment les valeurs moyennes pour ces articles.

(Signé) WILLIAM H. WRENCH.
E. BERTRAM.
MICHAEL PORTUGAL.

Pour copie conforme:
Le Secrétaire,
(Signé) J. P. Vazzidis.

Annexe (A) au Procès-verbal No. 7.

4. Produits de la Meunerie et Pâtisserie Ordinaire (*suite*).

Dénomination des Marchandises.		Droit, piastres or.
		Prs. c.
Farine—		
(*a.*) De froment	100 kilog. ..	20 00
(*b.*) D'orge, d'avoine, de maïs et autres	„ ..	13 00
Grauti, semoules en grain	„ ..	10 50
Grains perlés ou mondés	„ ..	26 25

(Signé) WILLIAM H. WRENCH.
E. BERTRAM.
MICHAEL PORTUGAL.

Pour copie conforme;
Le Secrétaire,
(Signé) J. P. Vazzidis.

Annexe (B) au Procès-verbal No. 7.

7. Café, Cacao, Thé.

Dénomination des Marchandises.		Droit, piastres or.
		Prs. c.
Café—		
(*a.*) Cru	100 kilog. ..	550 00
(*b.*) Torréfié, moulu	„ ..	700 00
Chicorées, pellicules de café et autres succédanés de café ..	„ ..	300 00
Cacao—		
(*a.*) En fèves	„ ..	800 00
(*b.*) Pellicules	„ ..	180 00
Thé	„ ..	2,000 00
8. Sucre, Mélasse et Sirop.		
Sucre—		
(*a.*) Raffiné en pains, même découpé en morceaux, candi	100 kilog. ..	150 00
(*b.*) Raffiné, concassé ou en poudre, blanc ou jaune ..	„ ..	350 00
(*c.*) Brut, non raffiné, brun moscouade	„ ..	240 00
Sirops, mélasses	„ ..	150 00

(Signé) WILLIAM H. WRENCH.
E. BERTRAM.
MICHAEL PORTUGAL.

Pour copie conforme:
Le Secrétaire,
(Signé) J. P. Vazzidis.

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* Ajouté le mot "frère."

Inclosure 4 in No. 26.

Procès-verbal No. 8.—Séance du 6 (18) Mars, 1884.

LES Délégués des Gouvernements d'Angleterre et de Turquie se sont réunis aujourd'hui le 6 (18) Mars, 1884.

Les Délégués Ottomans étaient assistés par Püschel Effendi, Chef des Commissions d'Évaluations.

Le procès-verbal de la séance précédente a été lu et approuvé.

Les Délégués ont examiné le reste des articles des Nos. 7 et 17 et les groupes Nos. 9, 10, 11, 14, et 15 du Projet de Tarif, et ont arrêté les taxes indiquées dans l'Annexe (A), en modifiant en même temps, sur la demande de Mr. Wrench, la taxe arrêtée dans une des précédentes séances pour la soude calcinée.

Quant aux articles de l'Annexe (B), les Délégués Ottomans ont réclamé 20 pour cent, vu que ces articles sont considérés partout comme articles fiscaux et soumis à des taxes très élevées. Mr. Wrench n'ayant pu offrir plus de 15 pour cent, on en a arrêté pour le moment les valeurs moyennes.

(Signé) WILLIAM H. WRENCH.
E. BERTRAM.
MICHAEL PORTUGAL.

Pour copie conforme:
Le Secrétaire,
(Signé) J. P. VAZZIDIS.

Annexe (A) au Procès-verbal No. 8.

9. BOISSONS FERMENTÉES, EAUX MINÉRALES.

(Fûts, bouteilles, et autres récipients renfermant immédiatement le liquide sont compris dans le poids net.)

Dénomination des Marchandises.		Droit, piastres or.
		Prs. c.
Eaux minérales ou gazeuses en bouteilles	100 kilog. ..	10 00

10. HUILES POUR LA CONSOMMATION HUMAINE.

(Fûts, bouteilles, et autres récipients renfermant immédiatement le liquide sont compris dans le poids net.)

Huile d'olive et autres huiles grasses végétales—		
(*a.*) En futailles ou autres ou même en cruches au-dessus de 15 kilog. de poids brut par pièce	100 kilog. ..	80 00
(*b.*) En bouteilles ou en cruches pesant brut 15 kilog. ou moins	„ ..	90 00

11. CONFITURES, ASSAISONNEMENTS FINS, ET CONSERVES DANS DES RÉCIPIENTS HERMÉTIQUEMENT FERMÉS.

Confitures, sucreries	100 kilog. ..	225 00
Halva	„ ..	75 00
Gâteaux et biscuits fins de toute espèce	„ ..	135 00
Moutarde—		
(*a.*) Préparée	„ ..	105 00
(*b.*) En poudre	„ ..	75 00
Fruits, légumes et autres comestibles, confits au sucre ou à l'huile; pâtés, sauces et autres aliments de luxe; tous comestibles dans des bouteilles, boîtes en fer blanc, bocaux, &c., hermétiquement fermés, récipients compris	„ ..	120 00
Sucs et jus comestibles de fruits préparés au sucre ..	„ ..	120 00
Conserves au vinaigre ou à la moutarde—		
(*a.*) En futailles	„ ..	30 00
(*b.*) En bouteilles, bocaux, boîtes ou vases semblables	„ ..	60 00

14. SEMENCES ET PLANTES NON POUR LA CONSOMMATION HUMAINE NI POUR LA PHARMACIE.

Graines—		
(*a.*) De sésame	100 kilog. ..	10 00
(*b.*) Autres, tels que: de colza, de raves, de lin, de chanvre, de pavot, de coton, d'alpiste, &c. ..	„ ..	10 00
Foin	„ ..	2 50
Paille et roseaux non compris au No. 61	„ ..	1 60
Fourrage frais et fourrage sec, non dénommé ailleurs ..	„ ..	1 20
Bulbes (oignons) de fleurs	„ ..	60 00
Racines fraîches	„ ..	6 00
Fruits frais	„ ..	6 00
Plantes vivantes de toute espèce	„ ..	3 00

15. ENGRAIS ET DÉCHETS.

Dénomination des Marchandises.		Droit, piastres or.
		Prs. c.
Engrais—		
(*a.*) Guano	100 kilog. ..	10 00
(*b.*) Autres engrais	„ ..	5 00
Vessies et boyaux	„ ..	20 00
Son	„ ..	3 00
Autres déchets non dénommés ailleurs	„ ..	4 00

17. SELS, ACIDES ET OXYDES (*suite*).

Soude caustique, liquide, ou cristallisée	100 kilog. ..	9 60
Soude calcinée	„ ..	6 40

(Signé) WILLIAM H. WRENCH.
E. BERTRAM.
MICHAEL PORTUGAL.

Pour copie conforme:
Le Secrétaire,
(Signé) J. P. VAZZIDIS.

Annexe (B) au Procès-verbal No. 8.

7. CAFÉ, CACAO, THÉ (*suite*).

Dénomination des Marchandises.		Droit, piastres or.
		Prs. c.
Cacao—		
(*c.*) En pâte	100 kilog. ..	2,000 00
(*d.*) En poudre	„ ..	1,800 00
Chocolat	„ ..	1,350 00

9. BOISSONS FERMENTÉES, EAUX MINÉRALES (*suite*).

(Fûts, bouteilles, et autres récipients renfermant immédiatement le liquide sont compris dans le poids net.)

Bière—		
(*a.*) En fûts	100 kilog. ..	180 00
(*b.*) En bouteilles	„ ..	225 00
Alcool et eau de vie, en fûts	„ ..	275 00
Boissons spiritueuses et liqueurs en fûts—		
(*a.*) Cognac	„ ..	500 00
(*b.*) Rhum au-dessous de 65 degrés Trilles ..	„ ..	250 00
(*c.*) Arac, brandy, et autres boissons spiritueuses, excepté les liqueurs	„ ..	350 00
(*d.*) Liqueurs	„ ..	400 00
Boissons spiritueuses et liqueurs en bouteilles—		
(*a.*) Maraquino, Chartreuse, Curaçon, et autres liqueurs sucrées	„ ..	1,200 00
(*b.*) Cognac, arac, rhum, et autres boissons non sucrées	„ ..	600 00
Vins—		
(*a.*) Mousseux en bouteilles	„ ..	1,605 00
(*b.*) Autres vins et succédanés du vin, cidre, poiré, moût de raisin ou d'autres fruits, en fûts ou en bouteilles	„ ..	500 00
Vinaigre—		
(*a.*) En fûts	„ ..	100 00
(*b.*) En bouteilles	„ ..	250 00

(Signé) WILLIAM H. WRENCH.
E. BERTRAM.
MICHAEL PORTUGAL.

Pour copie conforme:
Le Secrétaire,
(Signé) J. P. VAZZIDIS.

No. 27.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(Received April 9.)

(No. 70. Commercial. Confidential.)

My Lord, *Constantinople, March 31, 1884.*

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship copy of a note which has been addressed to the Russian Embassy by the Sublime Porte on the subject of the Commercial Treaty of 1862, for which I am indebted to the courtesy of the Russian Ambassador.

Your Lordship will observe that the Porte maintains the same line of argument that it adopted in its note to me of the 5th instant, namely, that the last Commercial Treaty concluded with Turkey annuls, according to international law, all previous arrangements bearing upon the same subject; and that the protection of a "most-favoured-nation" clause cannot be invoked outside of an expired Treaty.

I have, &c.

(Signed) DUFFERIN.

Inclosure in No. 27.

Aarifi Pasha to M. Nélidow.

Le 18 Mars, 1884.

J'AI eu l'honneur de recevoir la note que votre Excellence a bien voulu m'adresser le 19 Décembre dernier, relativement à la Convention provisoire à conclure en vue de régler les relations commerciales entre les deux États.

Dans cette note, en premier lieu, votre Excellence me fait observer que la date du 4 Juin prochain fixée comme terme de la Convention provisoire projetée est trop rapprochée, et que dès lors un arrangement provisoire entre la Turque et la Russie pourrait difficilement être conclu.

Permettez-moi, M. l'Ambassadeur, de vous faire remarquer que si, jusqu'à l'expiration de ce délai, les deux Hautes Parties Contractantes ne parviennent pas, faute de temps matériel, à s'entendre sur les bases d'un nouveau Traité, rien ne les empêcherait de le prolonger de quelques mois encore pour donner aux négociateurs le temps d'achever leurs travaux.

En second lieu, votre Excellence exprime l'avis que la liberté d'action que la Sublime Porte désire se réserver à l'expiration de la Convention provisoire en ce qui concerne le taux des droits de douane se trouve limitée par les dispositions des Traités et Conventions antérieures, et "qu'aussi longtemps qu'une Puissance quelconque jouirait d'un traitement établi en vertu d'un Traité, ce même traitement serait *ro ipso* applicable également au commerce Russe."

Je regrette, M. l'Ambassadeur, de différer d'avis avec votre Excellence à cet égard. Suivant un principe des plus élémentaires du droit international, ainsi que les dispositions d'un Traité, conclu pour toujours ou non, sont modifiées d'un commun accord par les clauses d'un Acte subséquent, elles cessent d'être en vigueur pour jamais sans pouvoir revivre à l'expiration de l'Acte subséquent.

C'est, d'ailleurs, en conséquence de ce principe que l'Article 1er du Traité de 1862 porte que "les droits, privilèges, et immunités conférés aux sujets Russes sont confirmés, à l'exception des clauses que le présent Traité a pour objet de modifier."

Personne ne saurait dès lors contester qu'à l'expiration du dit Traité, le Gouvernement Impérial est en droit d'avoir dans toute sa plénitude sa liberté d'action.

Il en est de même du traitement de la nation la plus favorisée qui fait l'objet du deuxième, et en même temps du troisième points de la note de votre Excellence, et qui ne saurait, à notre avis, avoir d'existence propre en dehors du Traité expiré. Comme il a été conclu avec chaque Puissance séparément des Traités de Commerce ayant des conditions distinctes et une durée non-uniforme, la clause de la nation la plus favorisée ne saurait évidemment s'appliquer aux cas qui ont fait l'objet d'une stipulation spéciale dans les dits Traités. Mais à plus forte raison, si le Traité a pris fin, cette clause ne pourrait plus trouver d'application, autrement il suffirait à chaque État de s'en tenir au traitement de la nation la plus favorisée, et de n'avoir aucune obligation de conclure de Traité distinct pour favoriser le commerce et la navigation de son pays.

D'ailleurs, on ne pourrait, non plus, en se basant sur ce traitement, exiger à être traité sur le même pied que les Puissances dont les Traités n'ont pas expiré, attendu que, d'une part, la Russie serait admise à profiter, sans en subir aucunement les charges de la situation avantageuse qu'une tierce Puissance a obtenu en s'imposant des sacrifices; et que, d'autre part, à l'expiration de leurs Traités, ces États aussi seront naturellement traités par le même régime et sur le même pied, tel qu'il est maintenant proposé au Gouvernement de Sa Majesté l'Empereur de Russie. Mais si en droit strict celui-ci n'est pas fondé à réclamer ce bénéfice par suite de l'expiration du Traité de 1862, il n'en est pas moins vrai que la Sublime Porte est toujours désireuse de concilier en tous points les intérêts du fisc Ottoman avec ceux du commerce, et cette seule considération suffit aux yeux du Gouvernement Impérial pour faire comprendre qu'il ne désire point nuire au commerce Russe.

Enfin votre Excellence voudra bien me permettre d'ajouter que si la Sublime Porte insiste sur la conclusion d'une Convention provisoire, c'est qu'elle sent combien il importe de rassurer, avant tout, le commerce sur le régime qui pourra lui être appliqué en attendant la conclusion d'un Traité définitif.

C'est d'après l'accueil que rencontreront ses propositions auprès du Gouvernement de Sa Majesté l'Empereur de Russie que la Sublime Porte pourra arrêter sa ligne de conduite dans les négociations futures, et, en cela, elle compte particulièrement, j'aime à le dire, M. l'Ambassadeur, sur l'appui efficace et le concours éclairé de votre Excellence et de son Gouvernement.

Veuillez, &c.

No. 28.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(Received April 9.)

(No. 74. Commercial. Confidential.)

My Lord, *Constantinople, April 4, 1884.*

WITH reference to my despatch No. 70, Commercial, Confidential, of the 31st ultimo, I have the honour to transmit herewith to your Lordship a copy of the note addressed by the Russian Ambassador to the Ottoman Minister for Foreign Affairs in reply to the note inclosed in my above-mentioned despatch.

I have, &c.

(Signed) DUFFERIN.

Inclosure in No. 28.

M. Nélidow to Aarifi Pasha.

J'AI eu l'honneur de recevoir la note de votre Altesse du 18 Mars, 1884, relative aux négociations engagées actuellement en vue de régler les relations commerciales entre la Russie et la Turquie.

J'ai la satisfaction de constater tout d'abord, que la Sublime Porte reconnaît dans cette note la nécessité de prolonger le terme fixe, antérieurement proposé par elle, pour un arrangement provisoire, afin de donner aux négociateurs le temps d'achever les travaux nécessaires pour la conclusion des Traités définitifs et des Tarifs uniformes. Ce n'est, en effet, que l'achèvement de ces travaux par toutes les Puissances Contractantes qui pourrait mettre fin au régime provisoire.

Quant à la situation qui serait créée dans le cas où les Puissances ne s'entendraient pas avec le Gouvernement Ottoman sur un Tarif uniforme et définitif, l'Ambassade Impériale regrette de ne pouvoir admettre en aucune façon la manière de voir de la Sublime Porte, tant en vue de cette situation spéciale qu'en général, par rapport aux principes qui déterminent ses relations de commerce avec les Puissances.

En effet, le Gouvernement Ottoman, cherchant à contester la valeur des Capitulations et Traités antérieurs, semble considérer ses relations commerciales avec les États dont les Traités sont échus, comme une sorte de *tabula rasa*, et veut revendiquer le droit d'accorder des privilèges à certaines Puissances au détriment des autres, et de taxer, suivant son libre arbitre, le commerce d'importation.

L'Ambassade Impériale tient à relever ici de la façon la plus formelle que les Capitulations stipulant à perpétuité les droits, privilèges, et immunités du commerce

ot des sujets étrangers en Turquie, n'ont jamais cessé, et continuent de former la base des relations des Puissances avec le Gouvernement Ottoman. Les Traités subséquents n'ont fait que confirmer et consacrer à nouveau les Capitulations. Si certaines clauses de ces dernières ayant trait principalement aux relations commerciales ont été modifiées par des Conventions conclues pour des termes limités, du moment où les termes de ces Conventions viennent à expirer, les modifications susdites perdent leur vigueur et les clauses des Capitulations, toujours virtuellement existantes, reprennent, *ex ipso*, toute leur force et valeur. Ainsi le Traité de Commerce de 1862 a élevé à 8 pour cent le droit de Douane sur l'importation des marchandises Russes que les Capitulations fixaient à 3 pour cent. Une fois ce Traité expiré, le taux de 8 pour cent n'est plus obligatoire; mais il n'en résulte nullement que la Sublime Porte soit déliée de toute obligation vis-à-vis de la Russie pour la fixation du taux à venir, ce dernier ne pouvant être établi qu'au moyen d'une entente entre les deux Gouvernements, ainsi que cela a toujours été le cas dans les Capitulations et les Traités postérieurs conclus par la Porte avec la Russie et les autres Puissances.

Pour ce qui est du droit de la Russie de réclamer le traitement de la nation la plus favorisée, malgré l'expiration du Traité de 1862, ce droit ne saurait être mis en doute, attendu que cette clause, inscrite dans le Traité de Kutchuk-Kainardji, n'a jamais été modifiée, et n'a été, au contraire, que plus amplement déterminée et confirmée par tous les Traités postérieurs, politiques et commerciaux. La portée de la dite clause consiste précisément dans le fait que tout avantage conféré à une Puissance est aussitôt par cela même étendu à toutes celles qui bénéficient de cette clause, en empêchant ainsi aucune d'elle de jouir de privilèges exclusifs au détriment des autres. A ce titre la Sublime Porte, dans sa note précitée, a été certainement fondée à faire remarquer que le bénéfice du traitement de la nation la plus favorisée représente à lui seul à la rigueur tout un Traité de Commerce, c'est effectivement le cas pour certaines Puissances dont cette clause constitue l'essence même du régime commercial vis-à-vis de la Turquie. Mais il va de soi que, vu l'étendue et la complexité des relations commerciales entre la Russie et l'Empire Ottoman, le Gouvernement Impérial pourrait difficilement pourvoir aux intérêts de son commerce et de sa navigation sans un Traité en forme.

Le fait invoqué par la Sublime Porte, que les Traités de Commerce conclus par elle avec certaines Puissances ont un terme plus éloigné que les autres, ne saurait en aucun cas créer un privilège en faveur de ces Puissances, au détriment de la Russie et des États dont les Traités à terme plus court, sont déjà échus. La durée plus ou moins longue des Traités stipulée lors de leur signature, doit être considérée comme une circonstance fortuite et nullement essentielle, vu qu'à ce moment-là tous les pays contractants étaient placés sur le même pied.

On ne saurait donc établir aucune connexion entre la durée de ces Traités et l'idée de charges et sacrifices quelconques comme le fait la note de la Sublime Porte. Il en découle que les États dont les Traités ne sont pas expirés n'ont de ce chef droit à aucun avantage particulier.

D'ailleurs, l'égalité de traitement consacrée par la clause de la nation la plus favorisée est un principe universellement admis. Il n'est fait exception à cette règle—ainsi que la Sublime Porte ne l'ignore pas—que de la part de certains États arrivés à un haut degré de développement économique, lesquels admettent entre eux des Tarifs Conventionnels dans le but de protéger mutuellement, au moyen de compensations réciproques, telle ou telle branche de leur industrie et commerce national. Une pareille politique commerciale ne répondrait pas à la situation économique actuelle de la Turquie, qui, du reste, dans le programme de la révision de son Tarif, ne prétend pas viser à un système protectionniste.

De l'ensemble de tout ce qui précède résulte que le principe de l'égalité de traitement ne saurait être à aucun point de vue repoussé par la Turquie, ce principe se trouvant inscrit dans des actes aussi solennels et aussi immuablement obligatoires pour la Sublime Porte que le sont les Capitulations. Cette manière de voir est, je crois pouvoir l'affirmer, M. le Ministre, celle de toutes les Grandes Puissances. La note de la Sublime Porte exprime donc une opinion plus que discutable, lorsqu'elle croit pouvoir avancer que "personne ne pourrait contester qu'à l'expiration des Traités de Commerce le Gouvernement Ottoman serait en droit d'avoir dans sa plénitude sa liberté d'action."

Le Gouvernement Impérial considère au contraire que la Russie ne saurait dans ses relations avec la Turquie se départir des droits inviolables qui lui sont acquis par les Traités et Capitulations, et qu'elle doit dès lors, dans ses rapports commerciaux, être placée sur le même pied que les autres nations les plus favorisées comme elle l'a

été depuis plus d'un siècle. Mais ces conditions essentielles n'empêchent pas le Gouvernement Impérial de s'associer pour ce qui dépend de lui, aux vues exprimées par la Sublime Porte tendant à concilier les intérêts du fisc Ottoman avec ceux du commerce.

La meilleure preuve de son vouloir à cet égard, la Russie l'a donné en consentant avec empressement à l'élévation projetée des droits de Douane d'accord avec les autres Puissances intéressées et en participant activement aux négociations actuellement engagées à ce sujet.

J'aime à espérer, M. le Ministre, que le Gouvernement Ottoman voudra bien apprécier la valeur des considérations qui précèdent et se convaincre que c'est seulement en se basant sur les principes énoncés plus haut qu'il sera possible d'arriver à un arrangement mutuellement avantageux pour les deux pays, et rassurer par là le commerce auquel l'état d'incertitude actuel porte une atteinte des plus graves.

En fondant, dans cette occasion, les plus grandes espérances sur l'esprit éclairé et judicieux de votre Altesse, je saisis, &c.

(Signé) NÉLIDOW.

No. 29.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(*Received April 9.*)

(No. 75. Commercial.)

My Lord,

Constantinople, April 5, 1884.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith to your Lordship a copy of a note in the terms of your Lordship's despatch No. 35, Commercial, of the 20th ultimo, which I have adressed to Aarifi Pasha, in reply to his Highness' note of the 5th ultimo, on the subject of the Anglo-Turkish Commercial Treaty of 1861.

I have, &c.

(Signed) DUFFERIN.

Inclosure in No. 29.

The Earl of Dufferin to Aarifi Pasha.

M. le Ministre,

Constantinople, March 28, 1884.

I LOST no time in forwarding to Her Majesty's Government copy of the note which your Highness did me the honour of adressing to me on the 5th instant, on the subject of the Commercial Treaty concluded in 1861 between Turkey and Great Britain.

Your Highness contended that the commercial clauses of all previous Treaties and Capitulations were voided by the Treaty of 1861, and that its termination has further put an end to Treaty engagement on the part of Turkey to grant most-favoured-nation treatment to this country.

I have now the honour of informing your Highness that Her Majesty's Government were quite unprepared for so novel and unprecedented a view of the character and effect of the Capitulations. The question raised in your Highness' note is one which Her Majesty's Government are not disposed to discuss for the present, as it goes to the root of the relations between the Porte and the foreign Powers, and affects all those Powers alike. I am, however, instructed to state to your Highness that, in the opinion of Her Majesty's Government, the Capitulations are perpetual in their nature and character, though temporarily suspended from time to time in certain respects by the provisions of Treaties of limited duration dealing with particular matters.

In the event of such Treaties not being renewed at their expiration the operation of the Capitulations revives, as regards matters dealt with by the lapsed Treaties, and it is scarcely necessary for me to add that the right of Her Majesty's Government to most-favoured-nation treatment at all times and in all matters, is one which has never yet been disputed, and which Her Majesty's Government do not intend to relinquish.

I have, &c.

(Signed) DUFFERIN.

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, LONDON

No. 30.

Earl Granville to the Earl of Dufferin.

(No. 43. Commercial.)

My Lord, *Foreign Office, April* 10, 1884.

YOUR Excellency's despatches Nos. 48 and 66, Commercial, of the 11th and 31st ultimo, forwarding Mr. Wrench's Reports of his proceedings in regard to the new Turkish Tariff have been under consideration.

In reply I have to state in the first place that if your Lordship sees no objection you may authorize Mr. Wrench to communicate, in such manner as you think fit, the *procès-verbal* referred to in his despatch of the 7th ultimo to Delegates of foreign Powers in the discussion of the Turkish Tariff. With regard, however, to Mr. Wrench's statement, as recorded in that *procès-verbal*, that Her Majesty's Government suggest an increase in the rate of duty in the Turkish Tariff, I have to request that your Excellency will call his attention to the necessity of taking care as to the precise terms he uses, and not to appear to be suggesting when he is only accepting a proposition. Her Majesty's Government do not suggest in any instance an augmentation of duty on British goods imported into Turkey; in some instances, however, they may not be able to refuse assent to a proposition to that effect.

With respect to the goods referred to in your Excellency's despatch No. 66, Commercial, of the 31st ultimo, I have to observe that the maximum rate of duty indicated in my previous instructions referred to manufactures of the United Kingdom. Tea, coffee, cocoa, wines and spirits do not come within this designation; and I am willing to leave to your discretion the rates of duty to which Mr. Wrench may agree in the case of these articles respectively.

I am, &c.
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 31.

Earl Granville to the Earl of Dufferin.

(No. 46. Commercial.)

My Lord, *Foreign Office, April* 14, 1884.

I APPROVE the note addressed by you to Aarifi Pasha, a copy of which is inclosed in your Excellency's despatch No. 75, Commercial, dated the 5th instant, on the subject of the Anglo-Turkish Commercial Treaty of 1861.

I am, &c.
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 32.

Earl Granville to the Earl of Dufferin.

(No. 47. Commercial.)

My Lord, *Foreign Office, April* 14, 1884.

I HAVE received your Excellency's despatches Nos. 70 and 74, Commercial, dated respectively the 31st ultimo and 4th instant, inclosing copies of notes which have passed between M. Nélidow and Aarifi Pasha, on the subject of the Turco-Siam Commercial Treaty.

Your Excellency is authorized, should you see fit, to communicate to the Russian Ambassador a copy of your note to Aarifi Pasha of the 28th ultimo, inclosed in your despatch No. 75, Commercial, of the 5th instant, in return for the documents which M. Nélidow has been good enough to place at the disposal of Her Majesty's Government on this occasion.

I am, &c.
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 33.

Mr. Browning to Lord E. Fitzmaurice.—(*Received April* 18.)

My Lord, *Chamber of Commerce, Manchester, April* 17, 1884.

SEVERAL inquiries have been made here respecting the new Turkish Tariff, and I am instructed to apply to your Lordship for information regarding any change in the duties, as it is reported here from correspondents in Turkey that they are about to be increased.

It would be a great convenience to receive, by the favour of your Lordship, definite information, in order to answer inquiries from merchants here engaged in the Turkish trade.

I have, &c.
(Signed) THOS. BROWNING, *Secretary.*

No. 34.

Sir J. Lee to Lord E. Fitzmaurice.—(*Received April* 21.)

My Lord, *Park Gate, Altrincham, April* 15, 1884.

WHEN Mr. Wrench last met the Turkish merchants of this city he told them that they might depend upon his word that no change would be made in the Turkish Tariff until it was complete and sanctioned by Her Majesty's Government.

The Turkish merchants, in reminding me of this interview, say they have been informed by their Constantinople correspondents that it is the intention of the Turkish Government to collect duties to the amount of 15 per cent. on and after the 4th June, but as some uncertainty seems to exist if this is to be the case, they will be most grateful to you for any information that would guide them in making their shipments.

The fact is, they are unable to take orders, not knowing what is to be the Tariff after the 4th June, and the uncertainty is interfering with the business.

If your Lordship could give me any information which would not interfere with the negotiations now being carried on, I would use it with discretion.

I am, &c.
(Signed) JOSEPH C. LEE.

No. 35.

Lord E. Fitzmaurice to Mr. Browning.[*]

Sir, *Foreign Office, April* 21, 1884.

I AM directed by Earl Granville to state, in reply to your letter of the 17th instant, that Her Majesty's Government have received no announcement of an intention, on the part of the Porte, such as therein referred to, to effect an alteration in the Turkish Tariff.

Lord Granville will, however, call the attention of Her Majesty's Ambassador at Constantinople to the statements contained in your letter, and a further communication will be addressed to you on the subject.

I am, &c.
(Signed) EDMOND FITZMAURICE.

No. 36.

Mr. Cartali to Earl Granville.—(*Received April* 25.)

My Lord, 16, *Gore Street, Greenheys, Manchester, April* 24, 1884.

AS I am largely interested in trade with Turkey, I am anxious to know whether the higher Tariff upon imports will definitely come into force on the 4th June next, and will be thankful if you would kindly inform me on the subject, that I may regulate my shipments accordingly.

I am, &c.
(Signed) THEODORE CARTALI.

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[*] Also to Sir J. Lee.

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, LONDON

No. 37.

Earl Granville to the Earl of Dufferin.

(No. 51. Commercial.)

My Lord, *Foreign Office, April 28, 1884.*

I TRANSMIT to your Excellency herewith copies of correspondence with the Manchester Chamber of Commerce relative to an alleged intention to raise the rate of Turkish customs duties.[8]

It has been stated in another quarter that the Turkish Government propose "to collect duties to the amount of 15 per cent. on and after the 4th June."

I shall be glad to receive a Report from your Lordship on this subject, and also to learn your opinion as to the terms in which inquiries on this point should be answered.

I am, &c.
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 38.

Lord E. Fitzmaurice to Mr. Cartali.

Sir, *Foreign Office, April 28, 1884.*

I AM directed by Earl Granville to acquaint you, in reply to your letter of the 21st instant, that Her Majesty's Government have received no announcement of an intention on the part of the Porte to effect an alteration in the Turkish Tariff dating from the 4th June next.

I am, &c.
(Signed) EDMOND FITZMAURICE.

No. 39.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(Received April 30.)

(No. 79. Commercial.)

My Lord, *Constantinople, April 24, 1884.*

I HAVE duly called Mr. Wrench's attention to the recommendation contained in your Lordship's despatch No. 43, Commercial, of the 10th instant, that he should be very careful as to the language which he adopts in the Protocol; but it is but fair to Mr. Wrench that I should remind your Lordship that the phrase "suggest" occurred in the instructions with which I furnished him, which were themselves a repetition of the form of words adopted by your Lordship in your despatch No. 10, Commercial, of the 18th January last, in which the following sentence occurs: "With regard to your inquiry as to maximum rates of duty, it would not be expedient for Her Majesty's Government to suggest rates higher than from 8 to 10 per cent. in the case of common or low-priced goods, and from 12 to 15 per cent. for those of a higher and dearer quality."

I have, however, warned Mr. Wrench that because a particular phrase is adopted in a confidential communication between the Government and its Agent, it does not therefore follow that the phraseology adopted should find its way into a contentious public document which is likely to be exposed to adverse criticism.

I have, &c.
(Signed) DUFFERIN.

No. 40.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(Received May 7.)

(No. 85. Commercial.)

My Lord, *Constantinople, May 2, 1884.*

IN continuation of my despatch No. 66, Commercial, of the 31st March, I have the honour to transmit herewith to your Lordship copy of Mr. Wrench's despatch to me of the 28th ultimo, inclosing the *procès-verbaux* (with their respective annexes) of the 9th, 10th, 11th, and 12th meetings of the Commission charged with the negotiation

[8] Nos. 33 and 35.

of a new Commercial Tariff, together with copy of some additional recommendations I have conveyed to Mr. Wrench, in accordance with your Lordship's instructions.

I do not see that the documents forwarded by Mr. Wrench call for any remark.

I have, &c.
(Signed) DUFFERIN.

Inclosure 1 in No. 40.

The Earl of Dufferin to Consul Wrench.

Sir, *Constantinople, April 22, 1884.*

IN forwarding to you the inclosed copy of Lord Granville's despatch of the 10th April,[9] for your information and guidance, I have to observe that although Her Majesty's Government did not intend the maximum rate of duty indicated in your previous instructions to refer to any other than the manufactures of the United Kingdom, and that therefore you are at liberty to use your discretion and judgment in regulating the Tariff with respect to all articles other than those of British manufacture, it will nevertheless be desirable to keep to as low a figure as possible in respect to all those articles which are chiefly imported by British merchants and British vessels, or are produced in our colonial possessions. Nor should you be in too great a hurry to abandon the reserves you have maintained in the last Protocol in reference to tea, coffee, cocoa, wines, and spirits, as the faculty of concession thus created will have placed you in an advantageous position in reference to that portion of the Tariff which immediately affects articles of British manufacture.

I have explained to Lord Granville that the phrase you introduced into the *procès-verbal* of the meeting of the 2nd February last, is to be found in the instructions I myself addressed to you, and was in fact taken from Lord Granville's own despatch of the 18th January, where it is stated "that it would not be expedient for Her Majesty's Government to 'suggest' rates higher than from 8 to 10 per cent.," &c.

I am, &c.
(Signed) DUFFERIN.

Inclosure 2 in No. 40.

Consul Wrench to the Earl of Dufferin.

My Lord, *Constantinople, April 28, 1884.*

I HAVE the honour herewith to transmit copies of the 9th, 10th, 11th, and 12th *procès-verbaux* of the Commission charged with the negotiation of a new Commercial Tariff, together with their respective annexes.

The duties on the articles enumerated in Chapters 18, 19, 20, 21 and 22 (with the exception of "musc," which is taxed at 3 per cent.), have been fixed at 8 per cent. In Chapter 23 the duties are fixed at 15 per cent., with the exception of those on "pétrole," on which article the Ottoman Government desire to levy 20 per cent. duty. The duties in Chapter 24 are again at 8 per cent., and those in Chapter 25 at 12 per cent., with the exception of "colle de poisson," which is at 8 per cent. In Chapter 26 all the duties are calculated at 12 per cent.

I have had the honour to receive your Excellency's despatch of the 22nd instant, inclosing a copy of a despatch dated the 10th instant from the Foreign Office, and will be guided strictly by the instructions therein laid down.

I have, &c.
(Signed) WILLIAM H. WRENCH.

Inclosure 3 in No. 40.

Procès-verbal No. 9.—Séance du 13 (25) Mars, 1884.

LES Délégués des Gouvernements de Turquie et d'Angleterre se sont réunis aujourd'hui, le 13 (25) Mars, 1884.

Les Délégués Ottomans étaient assistés par Püschel Effendi, Chef des Commissions d'Evaluations.

[9] No. 36.

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, LONDON

Le procès-verbal de la séance précédente a été lu et approuvé.

Les Délégués ont examiné les Nos. 18 et 19 du Projet de Tarif et sont tombés d'accord sur les résultats fixés dans l'annexe.

(Signé) WILLIAM H. WRENCH.
E. BERTRAM.
MICHAËL PORTUGAL.

Pour copie conforme:
Le Secrétaire,
(Signé) J. P. VAZZIDIS.

Annexe au Procès-verbal No. 9.

18. TANINS.

Dénomination des Marchandises.		Droit, piastres or.
		Prs. c.
Bois et écorces pour la tannerie	100 kilog.	4 00
Tans	"	4 00
Galles et vallonées	"	12 00
Cachou	"	28 00
Dibidivi	"	12 00
Sumac	"	12 00

19. MATIÈRES TINCTORIALES, COULEURS.

Terres colorées de toute espèce	100 kilog.	8 00
Verdet (acétate de cuivre), en pains, en cristaux, en poudre; cendres bleues et vertes	"	64 00
Bleu de Berlin	"	88 00
Alizarine	"	160 00
Aniline	"	120 00
Couleurs d'aniline	"	480 00
Outremer et autres produits chimiques colorants	"	40 00
Graine jaune	"	28 00
Garance	"	24 00
Noir de fumée	"	20 00
Bois bleu, jaune, rouge, en blocs ou en poudre	"	8 00
Quercitron, guédo, curcuma, alcanna, et autres teintures végétales	"	16 00
Encre d'imprimerie	"	60 00
Couleurs à l'huile	"	10 00

(Signé) WILLIAM H. WRENCH.
E. BERTRAM.
MICHAËL PORTUGAL.

Pour copie conforme:
Le Secrétaire,
(Signé) J. P. VAZZIDIS.

Inclosure 4 in No. 40.

Procès-verbal No. 10.—*Séance du* 20 *Mars* (1er *Avril*), 1884.

LES Délégués des Gouvernements d'Angleterre et de Turquie se sont réunis aujourd'hui, le 20 Mars (1er Avril), 1884.

Les Délégués Ottomans étaient assistés de* Püschel Effendi, Chef des Commissions d'Évaluations.

Le procès-verbal de la séance précédente a été lu et approuvé.

Les Délégués ont examiné les Nos. 21, 23, et 29, du Projet de Tarif et sont tombés d'accord sur les résultats fixés dans l'annexe.

(Signé) WILLIAM H. WRENCH.
E. BERTRAM.
MICHAËL PORTUGAL.

Pour copie conforme:
Le Secrétaire,
(Signé) J. P. VAZZIDIS.

* Effacée la particule "de," et remplacée par la particule "par."

Annexe au Procès-verbal No. 10.

21. DROGUES PHARMACEUTIQUES ET MÉDICAMENTS.

Dénomination des Marchandises.		Droit, piastres or.
		Prs. c.
Musc de Tonkin ou autre	Le kilog.	270 00
Ambre gris	"	660 00
Cantharides desséchées	100 kilog.	400 00
Huile de foie de morue; autres produits animaux bruts	"	60 00
Poudre insecticide	"	88 00
Drogues végétales, savoir: herbes, plantes, feuilles, fleurs, racines, écorces, semences, boutons, bois, et fruits médicinaux desséchés, tels que: racine de réglisse, sassafras, saponaire, jalap, rhubarbe, salsepareille, écorce de quinquina, ipécacuanha, tamarin, cubèbes, lichens; feuilles d'arnica, de séné, de laurier-cerise; fleurs de tilleul, têtes de pavot, racine de equine, de galanga et de salep, bois d'aloès et de quassie; écorces de quillai et de geoffrée, anis étoilé, noix vomiques, coloquintes, coques de Levant, graine de luchiche, &c.	"	44 00
Baume—		
(*a.*) De Pérou	"	1,000 00
(*b.*) Autre	"	240 00
Camphre	"	96 00
Manne	"	120 00
Gomme aloès	"	48 00
Opium	"	1,040 00
Jus de réglisse et autres sucs végétaux desséchés ou non	"	44 00
Pillules, pastilles et autres médicaments préparés, secs, de toute espèce, non compris dans les Nos. 17 et 23	"	240 00
Médicaments préparés liquides	"	160 00

23. HUILES MINÉRALES ET ÉTHÉRÉES, ESSENCES.

(Les récipients renfermant immédiatement le liquide sont compris dans le poids net.)

Huiles volatiles—		
(*a.*) De térébenthine	100 kilog.	45 00
(*b.*) Autres, telles que: huile d'anis, de genièvre, de cannelle, de girofle, de romarin, de géranium, d'amandes amères, de bergamote, de citron, de houblon, de cumin, de mélisse, de noix d'Inde, de rose, et autres à l'usage de l'industrie ou de la pharmacie	"	750 00
Extraits et compositions à base d'alcool, d'éther, ou d'eau distillée à l'usage de l'industrie ou de la pharmacie, tels que: teintures gingivales, esprit de savon, esprit camphré, eaux à détacher, &c.	"	180 00
Éthers de toute espèce	"	100 00
Chloroforme	"	200 00
Collodion	"	150 00

29. PARFUMERIE.

Pastilles, poudre et papier à parfumer	100 kilog.	375 00
Fards et feuilles à farder	"	450 00
Vinaigre parfumé	"	225 00
Eau de Cologne, eau de lavande	"	300 00
Autres essences et esprits à parfumer	"	450 00
Pommade	"	225 00
Poudre à poudrer	"	225 00
Poudre dentifrice	"	225 00
Autres cosmétiques de toute espèce, solides ou liquides	"	450 00
Huile de rose et huiles éthérées pour la fabrication de parfumeries (voir No. 23).		

(Signé) WILLIAM H. WRENCH.
E. BERTRAM.
MACHAËL PORTUGAL.

Pour copie conforme:
Le Secrétaire,
(Signé) J. P. VAZZIDIS.

Inclosure 5 in No. 40.

Procès-verbal No. 11.—*Séance du* 27 *Mars* (8 *Avril*), 1884.

LES Délégués des Gouvernements de Turquie et d'Angleterre se sont réunis aujourd'hui, le 27 (8) Avril, 1884.

Les Délégués Ottomans sont assistés par Püschel Effendi, Chef des Commissions d'Évaluations.

Le procès-verbal de la séance précédente a été lu et approuvé.

Les Délégués ont examiné la suite des Nos. 18 et 19 et les Nos. 20, 22, et 24 du Projet de Tarif et sont tombés d'accord sur les résultats fixés dans l'annexe.

(Signé) WILLIAM H. WRENCH.
E. BERTRAM.
MICHAËL PORTUGAL.

Pour copie conforme:
Le Secrétaire,
(Signé) J. P. VAZZIDIS.

Annexe au Procès-verbal No. 11.

18. TANINS (*suite*).

Dénomination des Marchandises.		Droit, piastres or.
		Prs. c.
Autres tanins	100 kilog.	12 00
Autres extraits de tanins	"	22 00

19. MATIÈRES TINCTORIALES, COLORANTES (*suite*).

Graphite, plombagine	100 kilog.	8 00
Talc dit craie de Briançon et autres; craie brute ou lavée à l'usage des écoles et autres usages	"	1 00
Spath pesant (sulfates de baryte) même pulvérisé	"	12 00
Blanc de plomb et de zinc	"	18 00
Cinabre	"	200 00
Litharge	"	18 00
Extraits d'indigo	"	80 00
Fabricats de garance, alizarine exceptée	"	64 00
Orseil, persio et leurs extraits	"	64 00
Extraits de bois tinctoriaux	"	48 00
Cochenille, kermès animal, lac-dye, sépia, et autres matières colorantes d'origine animale	"	100 00
Encre à écrire	"	30 00
Couleurs à l'huile et autres préparées à l'usage de l'industrie	"	24 00
Couleurs fines pour tableaux, encre de Chine, et boîtes de couleur; pastels et crnies à dessiner; crayons de toute qualité et de toute couleur	"	80 00

20. FERMENTS ET GLACES.

Levures de bière et autres, liquides ou sèches	100 kilog.	32 00
Charbons d'os	"	16 00
Glace	"	1 00

22. RÉSINES.

Résine de sapin, goudron de toute espèce, poix, brai, asphalte, colophane	100 kilog.	10 00
Résine, mastic	"	210 00
Gomme arabique, gomme laque brute, blanche ou jaune, résine d'ammac, de copal, de jalap, de sandaraque, de scammonée, de benjoin, d'encens, de myrrhe, gomme adragante, et autres résines et gommes non dénommées ailleurs	"	120 00

21. VERNIS ET LAQUES.

Dénomination des Marchandises.		Droit, piastres or.
		Prs. c.
Vernis à l'huile végétale	100 kilog.	32 00
Vernis et laques à l'essence de térébenthine, à l'esprit de vin, et autres	"	88 00
Cirage (récipients compris)	"	20 00

(Signé) WILLIAM H. WRENCH.
E. BERTRAM.
MICHAËL PORTUGAL.

Pour copie conforme:
Le Secrétaire,
(Signé) J. P. VAZZIDIS.

Inclosure 6 in No. 40.

Procès-verbal No. 12.—*Séance du* 3 (15) *Avril*, 1884.

LES Délégués des Gouvernements d'Angleterre et de Turquie se sont réunis aujourd'hui, le 3 (15) Avril, 1884.

Les Délégués Ottomans sont assistés par Püschel Effendi, Chef des Commissions d'Évaluations.

Le procès-verbal de la séance précédente est lu et approuvé.

Les Délégués ont examiné la suite du No. 23 et les Nos. 25 et 26 du Projet de Tarif, et ont arrêté les taxes indiquées dans l'annexe (A).

Le pétrole, les autres huiles minérales et les bitumes ont fait l'objet d'une annexe séparée. Les Délégués Ottomans considèrent ces articles comme articles fiscaux et réclament 20 pour cent. Mr. Wrench déclare n'être pas autorisé à accepter une taxe supérieure à 15 pour cent, mais il promet de demander de nouvelles instructions à cet égard.

(Signé) WILLIAM H. WRENCH.
E. BERTRAM.
MICHAËL PORTUGAL.

Pour copie conforme:
Le Secrétaire,
(Signé) J. P. VAZZIDIS.

Annexe (A) au Procès-verbal No. 12.

23. HUILES MINÉRALES ET ÉTHÉRÉES, ESSENCES.

(Les récipients renfermant immédiatement le liquide sont compris dans le poids net.)

Dénomination des Marchandises.		Droit, piastres or.
		Prs. c.
Benzine	100 kilog.	50 00

25. MASTICS PRÉPARÉS ET MATIÈRES À COLLER.

Gélatine	100 kilog.	150 00
Colle forte et colle de cordonnier	"	40 00
Cire à cacheter	"	84 00
Gomme, colle et ciment en bouteilles	"	180 00
Poîne à cacheter	"	120 00
Mastics préparés à l'huile	"	30 00
Glu	"	60 00
Dextrine et léocome	"	25 00
Albumine	"	200 00
Colle de poisson	"	200 00

26, Huiles Grasses et Graisses pour l'Industrie.

Dénomination des Marchandises.			Droit, piastres or.
			Prs. c.
Huiles grasses et siccatives en fûts telles que : huile de colza, de lin, de noix, de palme concrète, de noix de coco et autres, à l'exception de celles désignées dans le No. 10	100 kilog.	..	48 00
Graisse et huile de poisson ; suif et autres graisses animales pour l'industrie	..	..	48 00
Stéarine, paraffine, et blanc de baleine	..	..	72 00
Cire	..	..	120 00
Glycérine en fûts	..	..	160 00
Cambouis, résidus d'huiles minérales et autres onings pour graissage	..	..	24 00

(Signé) WILLIAM H. WRENCH.
E. BERTRAM.
MICHAËL PORTUGAL.

Pour copie conforme :
Le Secrétaire,
(Signé) J. P. Vazzidis.

Annexe (B) au Procès-verbal No. 12.

23. Huiles Minérales et Éthérées, Essences (*suite*).

(Les récipients renfermant immédiatement le liquide sont compris dans le poids net.)

Dénomination des Marchandises.		Valeurs moyennes en piastres or.	Taxe demandée par les Délégués Ottomans.	Taxe acceptée par le Délégué Anglais.
		Prs. c.	Prs. c.	Prs. c.
Pétrole brut (naphte) et raffiné ; autres huiles minérales et bitumes non dénommés ailleurs	100 Kilog. ..	88 60	17 60	13 20

(Signé) WILLIAM H. WRENCH.
E. BERTRAM.
MICHAËL PORTUGAL.

Pour copie conforme :
Le Secrétaire,
(Signé) J. P. Vazzidis.

No. 41.

Earl Granville to the Earl of Dufferin.

(No. 61. Commercial.)
My Lord, *Foreign Office, May 9, 1884.*

I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of your Excellency's despatch No. 85, Commercial, of the 2nd instant, forwarding further papers relative to the meetings of the Commission for the revision of the Turkish Tariff. I approve the instruction dated the 22nd ultimo, which you have addressed to Mr. Wrench on this subject. It is well, however, to point out to your Lordship that the word "suggest" quoted from my despatch No. 10, Commercial, of the 18th January, indicated the views of Her Majesty's Government, and was not meant to be used by Mr. Wrench in communication with his Ottoman colleagues, or to be recorded in the *procès-verbaux* of the Commission. I would at the same time request that when mention is made in Mr. Wrench's Reports, or in covering despatches, of chapters or divisions of the Turkish Tariff, the particular description or classes of goods comprised in them may, for convenience, be stated.

I am, &c.
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 42.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(Received May 21.)

(No. 94. Commercial.)
My Lord, *Constantinople, May 17, 1884.*

THE accompanying despatch from Mr. Wrench, and its inclosures, have just reached me. As the messenger starts to-day I have had no time to accompany Mr. Wrench's communication with any observations of my own, nor, indeed, do I know that any are necessary, as the contents of the documents sufficiently explain themselves.

I have, &c.
(Signed) DUFFERIN.

Inclosure 1 in No. 42.

Consul Wrench to the Earl of Dufferin.

My Lord, *Constantinople, May 15, 1884.*

I HAVE the honour to report that, in the month of January last, I communicated to Berkan and Michael Effendis, my Ottoman colleagues on the Commission for framing a new Commercial Tariff, the classifications for cotton yarns and cloths which were prepared by the Manchester Committee held under the chairmanship of Sir Joseph Lee in October last. After the Ottoman Commissioners had studied the proposals of the Manchester Committee, and had consulted many experts among the importing merchants, they drew up counter-proposals, which they submitted to me about the middle of last month. These proposals I communicated to a local Committee of merchants, under the chairmanship of Mr. J. W. Whittall. This Committee had, at my suggestion, been named by the whole body of Armenian and Greek merchants engaged in trade with Manchester, for the purpose of advising me on all the questions connected with cotton goods which might arise during the negotiations for a new Commercial Tariff. The local Committee have now made a Report, in which an opinion is expressed both on the proposals of the Manchester Committee and on the counter-proposals of the Ottoman Commissioners.

I have the honour to inclose the Ottoman Commissioners' proposals, in which are set down in piastres the duties they propose to fix on the several classifications of merchandize. I have, in order to facilitate comparison with other Tariffs, added, in a separate column, the equivalent of the piastre values in shillings and pence and decimals of pence per hundredweight.

I also transmit the Report of the local Committee before alluded to.

Your Excellency's instructions of the 14th January preclude me from accepting

any deviation from the classifications of the Manchester Committee, unless under your Excellency's authority. I therefore confine myself to forwarding the documents in question, accompanying them with the following remarks:—

Inclosure No. 1* treats of cotton yarns, and the taxes represent 8 per cent. on average values on the Custom-house quay at Constantinople. The Ottoman Commissioners are of opinion, and in this opinion all importing merchants concur, that it would simplify matters to class all "numbers" together, and to fix the value on the average of importation; they were inclined at first to separate "simple" and "retors" in the manner shown in the inclosure, but are not indisposed to unite them at the duties which are also shown on the same sheet.

Inclosure No. 2† deals with tissues, which are divided into but few classifications, for the double purpose of preventing fraud and of facilitating the importing merchant in passing his bales through the custom-house. There is obviously injustice done to cheap tissues in the very simple mode of classification adopted by the Ottoman Commissioners, and the local Committee mention the case of "tanjibs." I called the attention of the Ottoman Commissioners to this particular class of goods, and they explained to me how they had endeavoured, but in vain, in conjunction with their advisers, to find a separate classification for "tanjibs" apart from other, and in some instances very similar, transparent tissues. On the other hand, it is but fair to state that there are merchants doing a large trade with Manchester, who, while fully admitting the injustice done, not only to "tanjibs," but to many other cheap goods, positively assert that, taking them as a whole, the Ottoman proposals are well suited to the bulk of the British trade, can be readily understood by the class of officials to be found in the custom-houses of the Empire, are, by their extreme simplicity, calculated to discourage abuses, can be easily controlled by the merchants and by the Inspectors of Imports, without the necessity of unpacking and sorting the different classes of goods, and, finally, that their adoption will cause no diminution to British trade.

I should also mention that the Ottoman Commissioners, having several months to the study of the question, and having arrived at a Table of Classification which, if not satisfying all concerned, has at least the merit of contenting a considerable proportion of importers, and of being scouted by none, trust that Her Majesty's Government will not find their Table incompatible with the requirements of British commerce. As to the question of duties, I believe that the basis on which they have been fixed is more or less a 15 per cent. basis on the bulk of imports, although where classifications are so general, and values so divergent, it is difficult to fix an average. It is, perhaps, here that reductions may be obtained on the production of positive proof that the averages are too high. The Turkish Commissioners declare—and produce a large assortment of samples obtained from all quarters, and a vast amount of evidence to prove—that their valuations are low, but nevertheless observe that if any relief is to be afforded to the financial position of the State by the Powers negotiating new Tariffs, these Powers must remember that the great bulk of Ottoman imports consists of cotton goods.

I have, &c.
(Signed) WILLIAM H. WRENCH.

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* Inclosure 2. † Inclosure 3.

Inclosure 2 in No. 42.

Ottoman Counter-proposals for Classification of Cotton Yarns.

74. Coton Filé et Ouate.

Dénomination.		Droit. Piastres or.	Per Cwt. £.	d.	Dénomination.		Droits. Piastres or.	Per Cwt. £.	d.
Fil de coton simple et retors—					Fil de coton simple—				
(a.) Écru ..	100 kilog.	75	6	11·3	(a.) Ecru ..	100 kilog.	68	6	3·5
(b.) Blanchi ..	"	85	7	10·1	(b.) Blanchi ..	"	76	7	0·4
(c.) Rouge ..	"	110	10	2·1	(c.) Rouge ..	"	105	9	8·6
(d.) Autres couleurs ..	"	92	8	6·2	(d.) Bleu ..	"	92	8	6·2
					(e.) Autres couleurs	"	88	8	1·7
					Fil de coton retors—				
					(a.) Ecru ..	"	80	7	4·8
					(b.) Blanchi ..	"	92	8	6·2
					(c.) Rouge ..	"	120	11	1·3
					(d.) Bleu ..	"	108	9	11·9
					(e.) Autres couleurs	"	102	9	5·5
Fils de coton simples ou retors, accommodés pour le commerce de détail, c'est-à-dire mis en pelotes, bobines, petits écheveaux, cartes ou autres formes de mercerie, quel que soit le nombre de bouts, écrus, blanchis ou teints,—									
(a.) Sur bobines en bois, bobines comprises						"	128	11	10·1
(b.) Autres						"	200	18	6·1
Vigogne, mélange de coton et de laine, le coton dominant en poids						"	120	11	1·3
Ouate						"	52	4	9·7

Inclosure 3 in No. 42.

Ottoman Counter-proposals for Classification of Cotton Tissues.

75. Tissus de Coton.

Dénomination des Marchandises.	Observations (equivalents in Shillings and Pence per Cwt.) £.	d.	Taxe.	Les 100 Kilog. Taxes.
				Piastres.
1. Tous les tissus à l'exception du velours façon soie—				
(a.) Ecrus, tels que—				
T-cloths, waste-cloths, grey twills, grey drills, grey shirtings, grey cambrics, grey long-cloths et autres tissus semblables à l'exception de tulle et tulle dit Anglais	12	5·95	..	135
(b.) Blanchis—				
(1.) Gaze, tulle, mull, cavaspoor, jaconats, Victoria-lawn et semblables tissus transparents, ainsi que les mêmes tissus transparents écrus	34	8·52	..	370
(2.) Tous les autres blanchis, tels que: tissus dénommés au section (a), ainsi que les madapolame, shirtings, piqués, linge de table, mouchoirs ourlés ou non ourlés, futaine, &c.	19	5·25	..	210
(c.) Teints ou imprimés—				
(1.) Gaze, tulle, mull, mousseline, jaconats et semblables tissus transparents, comme: kalenkiar, tarlatan, organdis, &c.	52	9·12	..	570
(2.) Tous les autres tissus lisses ou façonnés, comme: étoffes pour doublures, drap uni, calicot, crétonne, piqués, damassés, tissus à raies, à fleurs, &c. ..	29	1·88	..	315
(d.) Étoffes tissées de fils teints ou imprimés	24	11·90	..	270
2. Velours façon soie	55	0·41	..	600
3. Broderies à la main ou à la mécanique ou avec applications, telles que: rideaux, bandes, entre deux, &c.	97	2·20	..	1,050
4. Dentelles	169	7·32	..	1,800
5. Bonneterie, telle que: bas, chaussettes, bonnets, gilets, caleçons, gants et autres tricotages, écrus blanchis ou en couleur ..	33	3·86	..	360
6. Passementerie et boutonnerie même combinée avec du bois, corne, verre, caoutchouc, &c., tels que: boutons, glands, revêtus de coton sur forme de bois, corne, &c.	34	6·52	..	375
7. Filets de chasse ou de pêche et autres rêts	24	11·80	..	270
8. Mèches à lampes	16	7·99	..	160
9. Toile d'émeri	5	6·63	..	60

Inclosure 4 in No. 42.

Mr. Whittall to Consul Wrench.

Constantinople, May 3, 1884.

Sir,

THE Committee over which I have the honour to preside have carefully examined the proposals submitted by the Manchester Chamber of Commerce, as well as the counter-proposals of the Turkish Government, *in re* the projected Anglo-Turkish Tariff, and take the liberty of commenting on them as follows:—

Manchester Valuations.—The valuations given by the Manchester Chamber are as nearly correct as they can be, and we therefore do not hesitate to recommend their adoption, but we believe the Turkish Government will want to add on to them the charges from Manchester to Constantinople, which charges amount, in round figures, on yarns to about 7 per cent., and on cloths to about 5 per cent., on the gross Manchester values, without deduction of discount.

We submit, however, that this discount should be deducted, and therefore the charges which the Turkish Government might fairly claim to add on to the Manchester valuations, in order to constitute the value delivered in Turkey, would be about 5 per cent. on yarns and 3 per cent. on cloths.

As regards the classifications recommended by the Manchester Chamber, it is our conviction that such elaborate divisions and subdivisions would, if adopted, give rise to endless troubles and disputes between the Custom-house authorities and the importing merchants, they would impede the progress of business, and open the way to gross corruption. Unfortunately, our long experience of Turkish officials is such that we can come to no other opinion, nor do we see any probability of such reforms, or rather such substitution of direct European management, as would open the way for the satisfactory carrying out of the system proposed.

Moreover, we doubt whether the Turkish Government would accept so complicated a Tariff.

Turkish Counter-proposals. Valuations.—There is no doubt that these valuations are too heavy. We cannot enter into the details of every article, but suffice it for us to state that we estimate the average values of—

	Per kilog.
Yarn (water and extra) at	7½ piastres—£T. 100
Grey cloths, &c.	7½ " "
Bleached cloths, &c.	8½ " "
Printed cloths, &c.	16 " "

whereas the Turkish proposals, calculating the duties on an 8 per cent. basis, put the values down at—

	Piastres.
Water yarns	8½
Extra yarns	10
Grey cloths, &c.	9
Bleached cloths, &c.	14
Printed cloths, &c.	12

Turkish Classifications.—There is a certain advantage in the very simple classifications proposed by the Turkish Government, but undoubtedly if these proposals were adopted in their entirety certain important classes of goods would suffer severely, as, for instance, "tanjibs," paying $3\frac{7.5}{100}$ per kilog. (on the basis of a nominal 15 per cent. duty), would be actually paying over 30 per cent., their real value being about 11½ piastres per kilog.

As regards yarns, we strongly recommend:—

1. That no distinction should be made between water and extra. This, we notice, is the course recommended by the Manchester Chamber; *de facto* there is very little difference in their respective values. The average Manchester valuation of the two for greys is 7½ piastres per kilog., and we recommend that this valuation should be adopted as the basis of the 8 per cent. duty.

2. That bleached yarns, both water and extra, should also go under one head, and be valued, as the Manchester Chamber proposes, at 5 per cent. above greys.

3. That coloured yarns should all go under one head, and be valued at 15 per cent. above greys.

As regards sewing yarns, we recommend that they should pay an augmentation of 10 per cent. on the above valuations for greys, bleached, and coloured respectively.

As regards "Tissus de coton," No. 1 (*a*) in the Turkish proposals, viz., grey cloths, such as T cloths, waste cloths, &c. (see Turkish proposals), we consider that the Turkish proposals are more simple and more adapted to the requirements of the trade than those of the Manchester Chamber, and we therefore recommend their adoption; but the Turkish duty is too high, and we consider that the Manchester valuation of 7½ piastres is more correct, and should therefore be adopted as the basis of the proposed duty.

As regards "(*b*) Blanchis" (bleached cloths), we consider the numerous subdivisions proposed by the Manchester Chamber as quite impracticable. On the other hand, the Turkish proposals are too simple to prevent great injustice being done to certain kinds.

After very careful study, we recommend the following:—

1. That bleached T cloths, drills, twills, cambrics, shirtings, long cloths, and other similar cloths should be classed together, and be valued at 20 per cent. above greys.

2. That "tanjibs" should be kept distinct, and the duty based on a valuation of 11½ piastres.

3. That Victoria lawns, mousooks, and mulls, up to No. 26, should be classed together, and the duty fixed on the basis of a valuation of 20 piastres.

4. That gauze, tulles, fine mulls ("yashmakliks") should be classed together, and the duty fixed on the basis of a valuation of 50 piastres.

5. That the above four categories should, when dyed, be also classed separately, and valued at 10 per cent. above the bleached values.

6. That all printed cloths, any width, any quality, and any amount of colours, should be classed together, and the duty fixed on the basis of a valuation of 16½ piastres.

7. That all goods made of dyed yarns, such as checks, ginghams, &c., should be classed together, and the duty fixed on the basis of a valuation of 14 piastres.

Please to note that all the above valuations recommended by our Committee are the equivalents of the Manchester values, without any addition of charges incurred between Manchester and Constantinople.

As regards the other articles named in the Turkish proposals, we regret to say that they are not in our trade, and are therefore beyond our competency.

I am, &c.

(Signed) J. W. WHITTALL.

No. 43.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(Received May 21.)

(No. 95. Commercial. Confidential.)

My Lord,

Constantinople, May 17, 1884.

WITH reference to my despatch No. 91 of this day's date, inclosing Mr. Wrench's despatch of the 15th May, I beg to inclose, confidentially, a private letter which Mr. Wrench has addressed to me in further explanation of his official communication.

I have, &c.

(Signed) DUFFERIN.

Inclosure in No. 43.

Consul Wrench to the Earl of Dufferin.

(Confidential.)

Dear Lord Dufferin,

Constantinople, May 16, 1884.

IN forwarding my despatch of yesterday's date on the subject of cotton yarns and tissues I cannot help feeling that I should have expressed an opinion on the propositions of my Ottoman colleagues. I find myself, however, in a difficulty. In so complicated a question as the Manchester trade, I hesitate to state officially an opinion without being able to quote good evidence in its support. Your Excellency will naturally suppose that I could get the evidence I want from my local Committee, representing as it does seven-eighths of the importing merchants in the Manchester trade, but it is just here that the difficulty arises, as I will proceed to explain. Mr. Whittall, the only competent Englishman I could get to preside over the

Committee, and an excellent Chairman, has left the Manchester trade, and he consequently relied upon the other members, all of them experts and men of standing in business, to fully consider and report upon the question. But each member being an importer, with his own affairs to attend to, looked simply to see if the class of goods in which he was interested was favourably treated in the Turkish proposals, and having done this would not devote his time to the consideration of the general question or of the calculations affecting it, and it thus happened that three times I had to return the Report for correction of calculations and of expressions of opinions which were not borne out by facts.

Your Excellency will more clearly understand the position when I inform you that one of the largest importers on the local Committee called upon me to inform me most confidentially that he and other members did not agree with the views of their colleague who was interested in "tanjibs," and who wanted the subdivisions appearing in the Committee's Report, although they did not like to tell him so. The views of himself and of those in whose name he spoke were that the simpler the classifications the better it would be; that even if the cheap goods did pay a high rate of duty it would not stop the import, as the consumer, who must have the goods, would either pay the extra charge or would buy a cheaper article which he would have to replace oftener; and my informant declared that when a rise of a halfpenny or a penny a pound on cotton put a far higher tax on the consumer than the proposed augmentation in duties would do, no diminution of consumption resulted. He went on to say that he fully approved of the Ottoman classifications, but he naturally advocated as great a reduction in duty as possible. He approved of them for these reasons: in the first place, the merchant really wants to know exactly what he will have to pay on his goods, and to be sure that no rival can introduce similar goods at a lower cost. Merchants obtain this first desideratum under the simple classifications of the Ottoman Delegates, as there can be no possibility of a dispute as to which category goods belong, and consequently no obligation to increase charges, in the form of "backsheesh," for the purpose of convincing the officials. For instance, were there a separate category for "tanjibs," he felt convinced that the door would be open for the abusive introduction of "mulls" and "Victoria lawns" as "tanjibs," and this would have a more disastrous effect than the present proposals, inasmuch as it would directly tend to keep alive the system of bribery, and thus destroy the element of certainty which was the first desideratum. Secondly, when he wanted his goods, in nine cases out of ten the merchant wanted them at once; and this would be met under the Ottoman proposals, for when once a bale was ripped to see if it contained yarns, grey goods, or points (we will say), it would be placed bodily in the weighing-machine, and the weight, minus tare, would at once show the amount of duty to be paid. The loss of time necessary to unpack the bale for the separate weighing of different kinds of "tanjibs," lawns, mulls, &c., would thus be avoided, and "backsheesh" would be unnecessary.

While deeply impressed with the correctness of the conclusions confidentially communicated to me by my visitor, I am unable to make use of his authority in a public despatch; in fact, he told me that he would contradict me if I made use of his own arguments before my local Committee.

After what I have said it is almost unnecessary for me to add that, knowing Turkish custom-houses as I do, I am in favour of the Ottoman classifications, however imperfect they may be from the point of view of a manufacturer or of an expert. As for the columns of duties, Bertram Effendi declares that they have been reduced so low by the different experts, that if they were to consent to further reductions in the cotton goods trade, the Porte would be certain to overrule their decision. The object of the Government being, in framing a new Tariff, to increase the revenue, the end in view would not be attained if the goods which represent about one-third of the total imports of the Empire are to be admitted below the figures which now appear against them.

Nevertheless, I consider that I am more likely to obtain concessions under the head of duties rather than under that of classifications, when I receive further instructions on the question from your Excellency.

I remain, &c.
(Signed) WILLIAM H. WRENCH.

No. 44.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(*Received May 21.*)

(No. 96. Commercial.)
My Lord, *Constantinople, May 17, 1884.*

IN reply to your despatch No. 51, Commercial, of the 28th ultimo, inclosing a communication from the Manchester Chamber of Commerce, containing inquiries as to whether it is the intention of the Turkish Government to raise its present Tariff after the 4th June, I beg to state that I referred the matter to Mr. Wrench, as being the person most likely to know whether any step of the kind was contemplated. I now inclose a despatch from that gentleman, from which it appears that, in his opinion, it may not be impossible that a step of the kind may be in contemplation.

I subsequently put the question direct to the Minister for Foreign Affairs. His Excellency was evidently completely taken by surprise, and assured me that such an idea had never even been mooted at the Porte.

Your Lordship will also remember that I received a positive verbal assurance from his Highness Aarifi Pasha (though I could never obtain it in writing) that, if by the 4th June the new Tariff had not been finished, the Porte would be ready to prolong the 8 per cent. *ad valorem* duties for another six months.

I have also endeavoured to ascertain the opinions of my colleagues on the subject. Those whom I have consulted regard any proximate change in the régime as most unlikely.

There is no doubt, however, that the present 8 per cent. *ad valorem* system is very disastrous to the Turkish Exchequer, and, I believe, entails a loss in the Customs revenue, as compared with former years, amounting to several thousand pounds a-week. In spite, therefore, of the assurances of the Foreign Minister, which I am convinced were given in absolute good faith, I am not prepared to say that this Government may not attempt to spring some unexpected mine under our feet.

The best answer to the question addressed to your Lordship by the Manchester Chamber of Commerce and other interested parties would be that the Turkish Government professes to have no intention at present of introducing any change in the 8 per cent. *ad valorem* régime.

I have, &c.
(Signed) DUFFERIN.

P.S.—I propose again addressing your Lordship on this subject by next Tuesday's post.

D.

Inclosure 1 in No. 44.

Consul Wrench to the Earl of Dufferin.

My Lord, *Constantinople, May 14, 1884.*

I HAVE had the honour to receive your Lordship's despatch of the 9th instant, inclosing copies (herewith returned) of a correspondence which has taken place between the Foreign Office and the Manchester Chamber of Commerce, and instructing me to report as to the alleged intention of the Ottoman Government to increase, within a brief delay, the rate of customs duties.

That the rumours mentioned in your Excellency's despatch should have reached England is not surprising, when we remember that the Porte, in inviting the Representatives of those European Powers whose Treaties of Commerce had either expired or were on the point of terminating to enter into a provisional Convention which should prolong the said Treaties to the 4th of next June, declared that after that date it would recover its full liberty of action with respect to the rates of duty to be levied.

I have reason to believe that in making this declaration the Porte contemplated putting into force, on the 4th June, the new Tariff upon which I am now engaged. It imagined, without taking sufficiently into account the difficulties attending the framing of a new Commercial Tariff, that the work of the German and of the British Delegates, possibly also of the Russian, would be completed before that date; and it fixed upon the 4th June for a new departure, because the Austrian Tariff and, according to the views of the Porte, the United States' Treaty of Commerce expire on

that date. It appears to have considered that the new Tariff could then be imposed on Austria, as well as on all those Powers whose goods were already being introduced on the *ad valorem* principle—that is to say, on England, Germany, Russia, Italy, United States of America, Greece, Belgium, Sweden and Norway, Holland, Denmark, and Spain. There thus would remain but the old Tariffs of France and Portugal in force, and the Porte hoped to induce these Powers voluntarily to accept the new Tariff, under the provisions of Article XVII of the French Treaty.

When it became evident that the work of the new Tariff could not be concluded by any of the European Delegates by the 4th June, the Porte, I am informed, at first was inclined to decree that, pending its termination and acceptance by the Powers, the 8 per cent. duty now levied should, on the 4th June, be raised to 15 per cent., but still on the *ad valorem* principle. Later on this idea appears to have been abandoned in favour of a prolongation of the term of the provisional Convention, as suggested to your Excellency in the note from the Porte of the 5th March, and a consequent postponement of the date on which the new Tariff would be called into existence.

I think that the above account will make clear the reason for the report which has reached Manchester, and the statement made in another quarter, to the effect that the Ottoman Government propose "to collect duties to the amount of 15 per cent. on and after the 4th June."

It now remains to be seen what the Porte really intends to do, and as far as I can learn no change whatever will occur on the 4th June—or rather, I should say that no indications of a change have as yet manifested themselves at the Porte. But I would venture to observe that this fact should not be relied upon as indicating that for the present no change is in contemplation. The Porte has not abandoned its pretensions to full liberty of action, nor its argument against most-favoured-nation treatment; and when we consider the abrupt manner in which the present 8 per cent. *ad valorem* system was introduced, and the absence on that occasion of any indication of a change, we must not be unprepared to meet, at any moment, a renewed attempt on the part of the Porte to escape, by some mode of increasing duties, from the loss the present system has entailed upon the Treasury.

I believe that my German colleague, who has been engaged on the new Tariff ever since last July, will in a month or so have completed all the chapters interesting to any appreciable extent European commerce. The Porte will then possess a Tariff sufficiently prepared for its purpose, and it will not be surprising if it then makes a further move on the basis of the principles laid down in its note of the 5th of last March.

I beg to inclose a cutting from to-day's "Eastern Express," treating the question from much the same point of view as I have done—although I have had no previous communication with the writer of the article on the subject—and announcing the formation of a new Commission to consider all matters relating to the Commercial Treaties.

I have, &c.
(Signed) WILLIAM H. WRENCH.

Inclosure 2 in No. 44.

Extract from the "Eastern Express" of May 14, 1884.

THE period when the Porte is expected to make some announcement with regard to its commercial policy is at hand. In three weeks the 4th June will be with us, and this is the date fixed by the Government as the term of the provisional state now existing. It is evident that this state cannot continue. The 8 per cent. *ad valorem* duty is exceedingly disadvantageous to the Porte, but as yet there are no indications of what the Porte intends to substitute for it. It may be assumed that the mind of the Porte is not yet fully made up on the subject, as a Special Commission has just been appointed to deliberate upon all matters connected with the Commercial Treaties. The Commission consists of the President of the Board of Audit in the Treasury, the "Musteshar" of the Customs, and two of the Law Officers of the Foreign Office. The Porte is desirous of bringing the increased scale of duties into operation as early as may be practicable. The obstacles to this are principally technical. The adjustment of the Tariff scale to the goods coming to this market is a work of great labour, and it is but partially accomplished. It is scarcely probable that it can be completed before the 4th June. Speculation is therefore rife as to whether the Ottoman Government will impose an increased *ad valorem* duty from the 4th June, or whether the Porte will be satisfied to press forward the negotiations for the new Tariff, and to endure meanwhile the disadvantages of the 8 per cent. *ad valorem* duty. Either course exhibits difficulties; but the Porte will, no doubt, so shape its policy as not to give rise to dissatisfaction on the part of any of the Powers, who, so far, are well disposed to meet the views of the Porte as regards the institution of a higher scale of duties. The Commission has a delicate and important duty to fulfil, and will deservedly win much credit if it be accomplished so as to realize the aims of the Porte, and avoid difficulty with the Powers.

No. 45.

Earl Granville to the Earl of Dufferin.

(No. 69. Commercial.)
My Lord, *Foreign Office, May 26, 1884.*

I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of your Excellency's despatches Nos. 94 and 95, Commercial, of the 17th instant, relative to the revision of the Turkish Tariff and the new scale of duties proposed for cotton goods.

Mr. Wrench's Report on these proposed new duties requires consideration, but instructions on the subject will be sent as soon as possible. An increase, which appears to be large, seems to be contemplated above the rate now levied. With reference to your Excellency's remark that Mr. Wrench's Report did not reach your Lordship in time to make observations of your own, I have to state that Her Majesty's Government wish to obtain the benefit of your remarks in all the stages of the commercial negotiations with Turkey, and I have therefore to request that your Lordship will give Mr. Wrench such instructions as you may think fit in order that his Reports may reach you in sufficient time to enable your observations to be recorded in the despatch with which they are forwarded.

I am, &c.
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 46.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(Received June 4.)

(No. 105. Commercial.)
My Lord, *Constantinople, May 30, 1884.*

WITH reference to my despatch No. 75, Commercial, of the 5th April, I have the honour to transmit herewith to your Lordship a copy of a note which I have received from the Ottoman Minister for Foreign Affairs in reply to my note of the 28th March, in which, by your Lordship's directions, I communicated to Aarifi Pasha the opinion of Her Majesty's Government respecting the abiding force of the Capitulations, and in which I maintained the absolute right of England, under those instruments, to enjoy most-favoured-nation treatment.

The nature and character of the Capitulations have already been so thoroughly discussed that it is unnecessary for me to make any further observations on this renewed attempt of the Porte to invalidate them. I beg, however, to call your Lordship's attention to the fact that, according to the present note, the Ottoman Government does not seem inclined to dispute in practice the right of Her Majesty's Government to most-favoured-nation treatment, although it is careful to show that it does not recognize this obligation in principle.

The Sublime Porte would, moreover, seem to imply that it has no intention of altering the existing régime until the new Tariff has been agreed upon; but even this insinuation is couched in such ambiguous language that it is difficult to divine the actual intentions of the Ottoman Government.

I fear that I shall have no opportunity of elucidating this last point before the messenger leaves; but I may perhaps be able, during the course of next week, to throw some light upon the real meaning of the Porte's communication, which has been for weeks in preparation, and the language of which has been cast and recast, I am credibly informed, more than half-a-dozen times.

I have, &c.
(Signed) DUFFERIN.

Inclosure in No. 46.

Assim Pasha to the Earl of Dufferin.

Sublime Porte, le 28 Mai, 1884.

M. l'Ambassadeur,

J'AI pris connaissance de la note que votre Excellence a bien voulu adresser à mon prédécesseur le 28 Mars dernier, concernant le Traité de Commerce.

Votre Excellence déclare dans cette note qu'à l'avis du Gouvernement de Sa Majesté Britannique, les Capitulations ont un caractère et une nature perpétuels, bien que de temps à autre elles aient été temporairement suspendues dans certains points par les dispositions des Traités d'une durée limitée qui avaient trait à des objets spéciaux, et que l'expiration de ces derniers fait revivre les Capitulations dans toute leur vigueur touchant les matières qui avaient fait l'objet des Traités expirés.

Je regrette, M. l'Ambassadeur, de devoir cette fois-ci encore faire observer à votre Excellence que la Sublime Porte ne saurait partager cette opinion. Les considérations émises dans la note de mon Département en date du 5 Mars, 1884, relativement à cet objet, sont trop explicites pour que j'aie besoin de les développer davantage. En présence cependant de l'insistance mise par le Gouvernement de Sa Majesté Britannique à soutenir une thèse que la Sublime Porte avait tout espoir de voir abandonner devant le caractère incontestable des arguments contenus dans sa note susmentionnée, je crois devoir entrer dans quelques développements, avec la ferme conviction qu'ils serviront à faire dissiper tout doute dans l'esprit du Gouvernement de Sa Majesté la Reine.

En vertu d'un principe de droit universellement reconnu aussi bien en droit privé qu'en droit international, tout acte solennel conclu d'un commun accord, postérieurement à un autre et modifiant celui-ci dans sa totalité ou en partie, se substitue à l'acte précédent également dans le tout ou dans sa partie, suivant le cas. Ce dernier cesse d'exister pour toujours dans celles de ses parties qui ont été modifiées, et à l'expiration du dernier acte les Parties Contractantes recouvrent leur liberté d'action. Si deux États tombent d'accord pour modifier les stipulations servant de bases à leurs relations dans les temps passés, c'est évidemment pour la raison que toutes les deux Parties étaient convaincues du caractère inconciliable de ces stipulations avec les exigences de l'époque.

Maintenant si, après l'expiration des arrangements ultérieurs, les anciens actes, déjà reconnus comme suannés et abolis, recommençaient à lier les deux Parties, il en résulterait un état de choses rien moins qu'admissible et qui serait sans précédent. La conséquence de ce principe qui ne souffre aucun doute, votre Excellence voudra bien en convenir, est que le Gouvernement Impérial n'est point lié par les clauses contenues dans les Capitulations touchant les droits de douane, clauses qui ont été modifiées dans les Traités de Commerce intervenus plus tard, et qu'à l'expiration de ces derniers actes la Sublime Porte est fondée à recouvrer sa liberté d'action.

Votre Excellence prête, en outre, dans sa note à la Sublime Porte l'intention de mettre fin à l'expiration du Traité de Commerce de 1861, à l'engagement découlant des Traités pour la Turquie d'accorder à l'Angleterre le traitement de la nation la plus favorisée, et déclare que le Gouvernement Britannique n'est pas disposé pour le moment à discuter cette question de principe.

Tout en abondant dans le sens des déclarations de votre Excellence au sujet de l'inopportunité qu'il y aurait de continuer la discussion sur cette question de principe, je me permettrai de faire remarquer à votre Excellence que la Sublime Porte n'a jamais eu l'idée d'appliquer au commerce Anglais un traitement exceptionnel. La preuve en est qu'après l'expiration du Traité de Commerce susvisé, elle n'a point traité ce commerce sur un pied différent de celui des autres Puissances, et qu'elle a même promis dans le Projet de Convention provisoire proposé à la signature du Gouvernement de Sa Majesté la Reine dans sa note du 6 Décembre, 1883, de continuer ce traitement pendant la période de temps qui semble nécessaire pour la conclusion des nouveaux arrangements. Dès lors, les appréhensions du Gouvernement Britannique à cet égard ne sont nullement fondées, et il suffira, j'aime bien à l'espérer, qu'il se pénètre bien des intentions de la Sublime Porte pour dissiper ses doutes à ce sujet.

En finissant, je n'ai qu'à insister sur la conclusion d'une Convention provisoire dans le sens de la note susmentionnée du 6 Décembre, 1883, étant convaincu que c'est le seul mode propre à concilier tous les intérêts et à rassurer le commerce sur le régime qui pourra lui être appliqué en attendant la conclusion d'un Traité définitif.

Veuillez, &c.

(Signé) M. ASSIM.

No. 47.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(Received June 4.)

(No. 107. Commercial.)

My Lord, *Constantinople, May 31*, 1884.

WITH reference to my despatch No. 85, Commercial, of the 2nd instant, I have the honour to transmit herewith to your Lordship a despatch from Mr. Wrench, inclosing copies of the *procès-verbaux* of the thirteenth, fourteenth, fifteenth, and sixteenth meetings of the Commission appointed to draw up a new Commercial Tariff, as well as copies of the Annexes to these Minutes.

I have, &c.

(For the Earl of Dufferin),

(Signed) HUGH WYNDHAM.

Inclosure 1 in No. 47.

Consul Wrench to the Earl of Dufferin.

My Lord, *Constantinople, May 29*, 1884.

I HAVE the honour to inclose copies of the *procès-verbaux* of the thirteenth, fourteenth, fifteenth, and sixteenth meetings of the Commission appointed to draw up a new Commercial Tariff, as well as copies of the Annexes to these Minutes.

At the above-mentioned meetings I have fixed, with my Ottoman colleagues, the duties on all articles mentioned in Chapters Nos. 27 and 28 and Nos. 30 to 39, inclusive. I have already forwarded to your Excellency Chapter No. 29 in my Report of the 28th ultimo; but I now perceive that I omitted to mention that the duties represent 15 per cent. on the articles enumerated in that chapter.

With regard to the rates of duty which apply to the articles appearing in the Annexes I now transmit, 8 per cent. has been fixed for the whole of those contained in Chapters Nos. 31, 32, 36, 37, and 38, as well as for the following: in Chapter 33, for "meules à moudre;" in Chapter 34, for "briques pleines, creuses, et tuiles; carreaux, autres ouvrages en glaise, tuyaux, creusets," and "briques réfractaires;" in Chapter 35, for "verre en masse;" and in Chapter 39, for "ancres, chaînes d'ancre," and "câbles en fil de fer."

Duty at the rate of 12 per cent. has been fixed, in Chapter 27, on "chandelles et bougies de suif;" in Chapter 28, on "savons mous" and "savons durs, communs;" in Chapter 30, on "cartouches de chasse;" in Chapter 33, on "plaques de pierre de Malte" and "plaques de marbre non polies;" in Chapter 34, on "jarres" and "articles de terre cuite et de faïence d'une seule couleur;" in Chapter 35, on "verre creux, commun;" and in Chapter 39, on those articles not mentioned in the previous paragraph as being taxed at 8 per cent.

The duties appearing in the several Annexes on articles other than those I have now specified represent 15 per cent. on average values.

Your Excellency will perceive that in the Annex (B) to the thirteenth *procès-verbal* the tax on matches, &c., has been reserved for ulterior consideration. The fourth paragraph of the proposals made by the Porte to your Excellency on the 8th July, 1882, states that the Ottoman Government proposes to reserve to itself the right of establishing a monopoly on matches; but the Turkish Commissioners desire, by showing the Government that all the Powers will agree to a duty of 20 per cent., to induce the Porte to abandon its previously conceived intention.

The question is not one that presses, and the trade interests but to a limited extent British commerce.

I have, &c.

(Signed) WILLIAM H. WRENCH.

Inclosure 2 in No. 47.

Procès-verbal No. 13.—*Séance du* 10 (22) *Avril*, 1884.

LES Délégués des Gouvernements de Turquie et d'Angleterre se sont réunis aujourd'hui, 10 (22) Avril, 1884.

Les Délégués Ottomans sont assistés par Pûschel Effendi, Chef des Commissions d'Évaluations.

Le procès-verbal de la séance précédente est lu et approuvé.

Les Délégués ont examiné les Nos. 27, 28, 30, 31, 32, et 34 du Projet de Tarif et sont tombés d'accord sur les résultats fixées dans l'Annexe (A).

Les allumettes et amadous (No. 30) ont fait l'objet d'une annexe séparée ; les Délégués Ottomans les considèrent comme articles fiscaux et demandent 20 pour cent ; Mr. Wrench déclare n'être pas autorisé à accepter plus de 15 pour cent, mais promet de demander de nouvelles instructions à cet égard.

(Signé) WILLIAM H. WRENCH.
E. BERTRAM.
MICHAEL PORTUGAL.

Pour copie conforme :
(Signé) S. CHLERFF.

Annexe (A) au Procès-verbal No. 13.

27. CHANDELLES ET BOUGIES.

Dénomination des Marchandises.		Droit, piastres or.
		Prs. c.
Chandelles et bougies—		
(*a.*) De suif	100 kilog. ..	60 00
(*b.*) De stéarine, de cérésine, et de paraffine ..	„ ..	112 00
(*c.*) De cire et torches de cire ; bougies de baleine ..	„ ..	150 00
Mèches économiques	„ ..	180 00

28. SAVONS.

Savons—		
(*a.*) Mous, verts, noirs, et autres savons mous ..	100 kilog. ..	30 00
(*b.*) Durs, communs, non parfumés	„ ..	40 00
Savons de toilette non parfumés en tablettes, en boules, en boîtes, et savons parfumés	„ ..	90 00

30. ARTICLES INFLAMMABLES.

Fils et cordons soufrés	100 kilog. ..	30 00
Mèches à mine de toute espèce	Prohibées ..	..
Pièces d'artifices pour divertissement	100 kilog. ..	300 00
N.B.—L'importateur des pièces d'artifices est tenu d'en obtenir au préalable un permis.		
Poudre à tirer	Prohibée ..	..
Capsules—	„ ..	..
(*a.*) De poudre fulminante de guerre	„ ..	..
(*b.*) De poudre fulminante de chasse (boîte comprise)	100 kilog. ..	360 00
Cartouches—	Prohibées ..	..
(*a.*) Pleines	100 kilog. ..	90 00
(*b.*) De chasse, vides, douilles		

31. PRODUITS BRUTS NON DÉNOMMÉS AILLEURS D'ORIGINE ANIMALE, VÉGÉTALE, OU MINÉRALE, POUR L'INDUSTRIE OU LA PHARMACIE.

Sangsues (terres et récipients immédiats compris) ..	100 kilog. ..	240
Grains de vers à soie	Le kilog. ..	16
Eponges	100 kilog. ..	600
Cardères	„ ..	16
Mercure	„ ..	150
Terre saponaire	„ ..	4
Soufre en morceaux, en canons,* et fleur de soufre ..	„ ..	6
Phosphore	„ ..	320

* Ajouté deux mots "ou moulu."

32. TERRES ET PIERRES.

Dénomination		Droit, piastres or.
		Prs. c.
Terres brutes—		
(*a.*) Chaux brute vive, cuite et éteinte	100 kilog. ..	1 00
(*b.*) Plâtre (gypse) natif, brut calciné ou lavé ..	„ ..	2 60
(*c.*) Ciments bruts, grillés ou moulus et poudre de marbre	„ ..	2 80
(*d.*) Autres terres brutes	„ ..	1 00
Pierres brutes ou simplement taillées en blocs—		
(*a.*) Marbre blanc et de couleur	„ ..	5 60
(*b.*) Pierres calcaires et pierre de Malte	„ ..	1 00
(*c.*) Pierres noires de Gênes	„ ..	4 80
(*d.*) Pierres à feu	„ ..	5 60
(*e.*) Pierres lithographiques non polies	„ ..	8 00
(*g.*) Minerai d'émeri en blocs et en poudre ..	„ ..	6 40
(*h.*) Ardoises pour toitures en blocs ou en plaques non polies	„ ..	4 00
(*i.*) Autres pierres brutes ou simplement taillées en blocs	„ ..	1 00

34. OUVRAGES EN PLÂTRE ET PORCELAINE.

Ouvrages en plâtre (gypse) de toute espèce	100 kilog. ..	45 00
Ouvrages en argile et terre cuite non coloriés ; briques pleines et carreaux non vernissés	„ ..	1 00
Briques creuses et tuiles de toute espèce non vernissées ..	„ ..	1 60
Carreaux, briques, et tuiles vernissés ; briques à nettoyer .	„ ..	4 00
Autres ouvrages en glaise propres à la bâtisse	„ ..	6 00
Tuyaux et tubes en argiles	„ ..	2 80
Creusets	„ ..	24 00
Pipes et têtes de pipe en terre	„ ..	45 00
Jetons et chiques en marbre ou en terre	„ ..	37 50

(Signé) WILLIAM H. WRENCH.
E. BERTRAM.
MICHAEL PORTUGAL.

Pour copie conforme :
(Signé) S. CHLERFF.

Annexe (B) au Procès-verbal No. 13.

34. ARTICLES INFLAMMABLES.

Dénomination.		Valeur Moyenne en Piastres.	Taxe demandée par les Délégués Ottomans.	Taxe acceptée par le Délégué Anglais.
			Prs. c.	Prs. c.
Allumettes, allumettes-bougies, amadou de toute espèce et mèches salpêtrés pour briquets	100 kilog. ..	700	140 00	105 00

(Signé) WILLIAM H. WRENCH.
E. BERTRAM.
MICHAEL PORTUGAL.

Pour copie conforme :
(Signé) S. CHLERFF.

Inclosure 3 in No. 47.

Procès-verbal No. 14.—*Séance du* 17 (29) *Avril*, 1884.

LES Délégués des Gouvernements d'Angleterre et de Turquie se sont réunis aujourd'hui 17 (29) Avril, 1884.

Les Délégués Ottomans sont assistés par Püschel Effendi, Chef des Commissions d'Évaluations.

Le procès-verbal de la séance précédente est lu et approuvé.

Les Délégués examinent la suite du No. 34 et les Nos. 33 et 35 du Projet de Tarif, et tombent d'accord sur les résultats fixés dans l'Annexe.

(Signé) WILLIAM H. WRENCH.
E. BERTRAM.
MICHAËL PORTUGAL.

Pour copie conforme :
Le Secrétaire,
(Signé) J. P. VAZZIDIS.

Annexe au Procès-verbal No. 14.

33. OUVRAGES EN PIERRE.

Dénomination des Marchandises.		Droit, piastres or.
		Prs. c.
Meules à moudre cerclées de fer ou non	100 kilog.	7 00
Plaques de pierre de Malte, moins de 16 centim. d'épaisseur	"	1 50
Plaques de marbre non polies, moins de 16 centim. d'épaisseur	"	12 00
Plaques en pierre, non* polies, d'ardoises de marbre blanc ou de couleur et d'autres pierres	"	22 50
Pierres lithographiques polies	"	30 00
Pierres de touche, pierres à aiguiser et à repasser de toute espèce, non combinées avec d'autres matières	"	15 00
Ouvrages grossiers et non polis de ciment ou de tailleur de pierres, tels que : jambages de portes et de fenêtres, piliers et parties de piliers, conduits et tuyaux, auges, ornements pour construction, et autres ouvrages analogues	"	15 00
Tablettes d'arbois encadrées avec du bois	"	15 00
Ouvrages fins en pierre, tels que : devantures sculptées de cheminées, statues, bustes, figures d'animaux, et articles de luxe (presses-papiers, chandeliers, compas, encriers, objets propres à garnir les toilettes et les étagères), ainsi que ouvrages en pierre combinés avec métaux, et autres matières et non compris au No. 98	"	150 00

34. OUVRAGES EN PLÂTRE ET PORCELAINE.

Briques réfractaires de toute espèce	100 kilog.	3 20
Jarres : grès et poterie de terre commune	"	12 00
Articles de terre cuite ou de faïence, tels que : service de table, poêles et parties de poêles, carreaux de revêtement pour muraille et pour carrelage—		
(*a.*) D'une seule couleur	"	30 00
(*b.*) De deux ou plusieurs couleurs, dorés, argentés, peints	"	60 00
Porcelaine—		
(*a.*) Blanche	"	90 00
(*b.*) De couleur, peinte, dorée	"	150 00
Ouvrages en argile, terre cuite et porcelaine de toute sorte, combinés avec d'autres matières, mais non compris au No. 98	"	150 00

* Effacé le mot "non."

35. VERRES ET VERRERIES.

Dénomination des Marchandises.		Droit, piastres or.
		Prs. c.
Verre en masse ; verre pulvérisé ; verre cassé	100 kilog.	2 00
Verre creux, commun, de couleur naturelle, même moulé ou clissé, mais non blanc et non taillé, tels que : dames-jeannes, gulons, bouteilles, &c.	"	18 00
Cylindres à lampes	"	18 00
Verre creux, blanc ou laiteux, uni et moulé, mais ni poli, ni taillé, ni gravé, tels que : carafes, verres, globes de lampes, et autres	"	52 50
Verre à vitres, blanc ou mi-blanc	"	18 00
Verre à vitres, de couleur, à dessins ou cannelé	"	60 00
Pendants (pendeloques) pour lustres ; boutons en verre de toute couleur avec ou sans œillet ; perles en verre et vitrifications (émail) de toute couleur, même dévidées sur fil	"	132 00
Autres cristaux et verreries—		
(*a.*) Non coloriés, polis, dépolis ou taillés	"	105 00
(*b.*) Coloriés, peints ou dorés, même polis, dépolis, ou taillés	"	150 00
Glaces et verres en tables, bruts, non polis, coulés et à relief, et tuiles en verre	"	18 00
Glaces et verres à miroirs, polis, étamés ou non étamés, à biseau ou bombés	"	120 00
Ouvrages en cristal ou verre de toute sorte combinés avec d'autres matières, mais non compris au No. 98, tels que : lampes, lustres, encriers en verre revêtus de cuir, miroirs encadrés, parures, fleurs artificielles combinées avec des fils de fer et autres	"	180 00

(Signé) WILLIAM H. WRENCH.
E. BERTRAM.
MICHAËL PORTUGAL.

Pour copie conforme :
Le Secrétaire :
(Signé) J. P. VAZZIDIS.

Inclosure 4 in No. 47.

Procès-verbal No. 15.—*Séance du* 24 *Avril* (6 *Mai*), 1884.

LES Délégués des Gouvernements de Turquie et d'Angleterre se sont réunis aujourd'hui, le 24 Avril (6 Mai), 1884.

Les Délégués Ottomans sont assistés par Püschel Effendi, Chef des Commissions d'Évaluations.

Le procès-verbal de la séance précédente est lu et approuvé.

Les Délégués ont examiné les Nos. 36, 37, et 38 du Projet de Tarif et ont arrêté les taxes fixées dans l'Annexe.

(Signé) WILLIAM H. WRENCH.
E. BERTRAM.
MICHAËL PORTUGAL.

Pour copie conforme :
Le Secrétaire,
(Signé) J. P. VAZZIDIS.

Annexé au Procès-verbal No. 15.

36. Minerais de Fer.

Dénomination de Marchandises.		Droits, piastres or.
		Prs. c.
Minerais de fer	100 kilog. ..	0 80

37. Matériaux Bruts de Fer.

Débris de vieux ouvrages en fer ou en acier, limailles et pailles	100 kilog. ..	3 20
Fonte brute de toute espèce	,, ..	3 20
Fer en loupes et en lingots	,, ..	4 80
Acier brut, fondu, affiné ou en barres.	,, ..	14 40

38. Fabricats incomplets de Fer.

Rails pour chemins de fer, en fer ou en acier; fer à angle; fer à [, T, I, et semblables; fer en barres, rondes ou carrées; fer en bottes; fil de fer	100 kilog. ..	7 60
Fil de fer cuivré, étamé, zingué, plombé	,, ..	10 00
Fil d'acier	,, ..	20 00
Fer pour socs de charrue; tôle et plaque de fer, brutes; cercles de fer et lames pour cercles; tôle de fer vernie au vernis commun	,, ..	10 00
Tôle et plaque d'acier, brutes	,, ..	16 80
Tôle et plaque d'acier, polies, vernies, cuivrées, étamées, zinguées, plombées, nickelées	,, ..	24 00
Fer blanc (fer laminé et étamé) et autres tôles et plaques de fer vernies, cuivrées, zinguées, plombées, nickelées. .	,, ..	16 00

39. Ouvrages très grossiers en Fer ou Fonte.

Ancres, chaînes d'ancre et de navire	100 kilog. ..	16 00
Câble de fil de fer.	,, ..	24 00
Tuyaux et tubes en fer forgé et laminé ou étiré, y compris les pièces de raccord	,, ..	24 00
Ouvrages très grossiers en fonte, même vernissés au vernis commun et lors même qu'il s'y trouve des parties de fer forgé servant uniquement à l'assemblage ou lorsqu'il y entre du bois, tels que: fourneaux, plaques façonnées, grilles, &c.; tuyaux et tubes en fonte de fer	,, ..	12 00

(Signé) WILLIAM H. WRENCH.
E. BERTRAM.
MICHAËL PORTUGAL.

Pour copie conforme:
Le Secrétaire,
(Signé) J. P. Vazzidis.

Inclosure 5 in No. 47.

Procès-verbal No. 16.—Séance du 1er (13) Mai, 1884.

LES Délégués des Gouvernements d'Angleterre et de Turquie se sont réunis aujourd'hui, le 1er (13) Mai, 1884.

Les Délégués Ottomans sont assistés par Füschel Effendi, Chef des Commissions d'Évaluations.

Le procès-verbal de la séance précédente a été lu et approuvé.

Les Délégués ont examiné les Nos. 40 et 41 du Projet de Tarif qui ont trait aux ouvrages grossiers et fins en fer ou acier. Vu l'importance de ces articles, les Délégués ont jugé nécessaire d'établir des classifications plus simples, en réunissant autant que possible les divers articles en fer ou acier. Dans ce but ils ont examiné les valeurs et

Mr. Wrench a présenté à ses collègues le projet d'une nouvelle classification que les Délégués Ottomans ont promis d'étudier.

(Signé) WILLIAM H. WRENCH.
E. BERTRAM.
MICHAËL PORTUGAL.

Pour copie conforme:
Le Secrétaire,
(Signé) J. P. Vazzidis.

No. 48.

Sir J. Lee to Lord E. Fitzmaurice.—(Received June 6.)

My Lord, *June 5, 1884.*

I HAVE now the honour to report upon the papers relating to the Turkish Tariff, handed to me by Mr. Kennedy.

The Statement issued by the Foreign Office on the 12th September, 1883, was a proposal for a new Tariff addressed by the Ottoman Commissioners to Consul Wrench. The Tariff was to be specific, every description of merchandize paying a weight duty based on values at the place of production. The explanatory remarks set forth that all goods must be taxed equably.

As to cotton goods, the duty on yarns would be equal to 8 per cent. of the value; on fabrics the duty would not exceed 20 per cent. of the value; one class of fabrics was excepted, namely, the goods used for "Kalemkiars," and are called by us "Tanjibs," "Nainsook," "Mulls," Nos. 4, 16, 26, &c.; the duty on this class would be 8 per cent. of the value.

The Manchester proposals submitted to your Lordship were based on the view expressed in this Statement. A plan was made so that all goods were taxed equably, the finer and costlier goods bearing a proportionate burden to the cheaper kinds; the plan was necessarily somewhat intricate, but not more so than an ordinary custom-house official could understand. In comparison with other continental Tariffs it was simple, and could not be easily evaded.

The Ottoman Commissioners have now abandoned the principle of taxation set forth in the Statement to Consul Wrench, and have adopted the system of 1861 with certain modifications in the categories which are intended to make the Tariff simpler, though the tax is consequently very heavy on the goods which constitute the clothing of the poorer people and necessarily light on the finer goods worn by the rich.

Turkish Counter-Proposals.

Yarns.—An alternative scheme is submitted. The plan in the first column of No. 1 Paper is to admit single and double yarns at one uniform rate; this would not be so advantageous to our trade as the plan in the second column. Three-fourths of the yarns shipped being single, the rate of grey is high, 6*s.* 3*d.* per cwt., being 10 per cent. on the value of 70 per cent. of the goods shipped, though the average on the whole exportation will be about 8 per cent. of the value.

White should not be taxed more than 5 per cent. over grey.

Red is altogether too high, 50 per cent. over the price of grey. This is a very important question; it affects the Scotch dyers to a great extent, and is no doubt put in to favour the German production; 16 per cent. to 20 per cent. is ample.

Blue should be with the other colours, and not pay more than 15 per cent. extra. The first column shows that no objection can be made to this arrangement. Double yarns, called "sewing yarns," 10 per cent. additional on the single is ample; the proposals are 18 per cent. The remarks apply to coloured yarns as made on the single.

Fils de coton sur bobines en bois.—The proposed tax is too high, and would quite destroy the trade, the weight of the bobbin being ten times greater than the yarn on the bobbin. Most of the bobbins shipped have only 100 to 200 yards of thread upon them, the value of which we cannot estimate.*

Vigogne and Ouate.—I do not think we have a trade in these yarns.

Tariff.—Tissus de Coton.—The 1st Section, *Category A*, contains all grey cottons, with the exception of transparent fabrics; 75 per cent. of the goods in this category, shipped, are from 6¼*d.* to 8⅜*d.* per lb.; if the average be taken at 7¼*d.* per lb., and the duty at 12*s.* 5*d.* per cwt., the tax will be equal to 18 per cent. of the value; if the average be taken at 9⅜*d.* per lb., 14 per cent.; and if at 12*d.* per lb., 11⅓ per cent. of the value. About 20 per cent. of the second grade and 5 per cent. of the third grade are shipped. It will be seen the burden is borne by the first grade.

* Two-fold 40's cost 1*s.* per lb., the length of yarn in a lb. is 16,800 yards.

Category B, bleached, No. 1.—The advance on this category is serious, as it contains fabrics from 11*d.* to 6*s.* 8*d.* per lb. weight in value; the assumption is that the goods named in this class are transparent tissues.* Tanjibs (Saraspoor), Jacconets, Victoria lawns, Nainsooks, are not transparent. I don't see how these goods can be classed together with Mulls and Books.

Tanjibs are a large importation, and form the clothing of the lower classes of the people. As shown in the Statement, they were expressly reserved for a lower rate of duty; they are the same kind of goods which are taxed in Category A at 7½*d.* per lb., and in Category B 2 as Shirtings, the difference being in the finish, the greys being filled in manufacture, the white in finishing; the Tanjibs are bleached, and are not finished, but quite soft and pure. These goods in this Category B 1 would pay a duty equal to 34 per cent. of the value; Jacconets would pay 21 per cent., and Common Mulls, 18 per cent.; while transparent goods, as Fine Books, Fine Mulls, would pay 8 per cent., and Gaze, Tulle, and Tarlatans, 4½ per cent. I think a separate class should be made for the three items in question; if that cannot be obtained, the goods ought to be put in Class B 2, but undoubtedly the best plan would be to form a separate class for them.

Category B 2.—Low Shirtings would pay 25 per cent. of the value; medium, 20 per cent.; and fine, 18½ per cent.; Cambrics and such finer yarn goods, 15 per cent.

Category B 2.—If Tanjibs were put in this class at the proposed rate the duty would be 19½ per cent., Jacconets, Victoria Lawns, Nainsook, 11 per cent.; Mulls, Schapali, Tengifs, Nos. 4, 16, and 26, 10 per cent. of the value.

It will be seen the rate is far beyond what has been hitherto proposed, and will require careful consideration; 19*s.* 5*d.* per cwt. is too high.

Category C.—(*Teints ou imprimés*), No. 1.—The same difficulty presents itself in the denomination in this class; goods that are not transparent are named as being so, Jacconets are not transparent. Printed Mulls, low class, would pay 28 per cent.; medium, 20 per cent.; fine, 15 per cent. of the value, while Jacconets and goods of such order would pay 31½ per cent.

Category C 2, No. 2.—All other description of printed or dyed goods.

Lowest class would pay 23½ per cent.; next, 20 per cent.; and these two would represent 75 per cent. of the importation. Medium goods would pay 16½ per cent., and fine goods, 14 per cent. of the value.

Category D.—The lowest class would pay 23 per cent., and represent 75 per cent. of the importation; medium, 19½ per cent.; fine, 16½ per cent.; best, 12 per cent. of the value.

Section II.—Velours, Cotton Velveteens. The average would be 11½ per cent. of the value.

Section III.—Broderies à la main ou à la mécanique, &c.

If this section is intended to include Scotch lappets, lappet shawls, shawls figured by the shuttle in the loom, the duty will be serious; these goods pay now 8 per cent., *ad valorem*. If placed in this class the tax for lappets is 32½ per cent., and for shawls, 28 per cent.; of the value the above goods rightly belong to Category B 2, if white, and if coloured, Category D.

This section should contain only such goods as are embroidered by hand or by machine, what is called "sowed" then, I think, the tax is reasonable.

The other sections under the head of "Tissus de Coton" are of very small interest to English merchants, the shipments being of a retail character.

I inclose a section of the Statement relating to cottons.

I refrain from making any lengthy remarks on the correspondence.

Mr. Whittal's Reports require one or two remarks.

I think English merchants will have no objection to the form of the Turkish counter-proposals provided the goods are classed properly.

The Manchester Chamber is not wedded to any particular plan of imposing duties; the one sent to Mr. Wrench was the most suitable according to the instruction received.

The best course now is to accept the scheme of the Ottoman Commissioners and improve it according to the information contained in this Report.

The values given to Mr. Wrench when in Manchester are correct at the place of production.

I am, &c.

(Signed) JOSEPH C. LEE.

* *Transparent Tissues.*—This term is very misleading, and if it be retained, will lead to endless confusion. The commonest kind of cloth bleached and finished, without filling, could be called transparent, by reason of the few threads used in the manufacture, for by holding the cloth up to the light it can be seen through. Transparent tissues are really those made from fine yarns, as Fine Mulls, Tarlatan, &c.

Inclosure in No. 48.

	Taux de Taxe.*	Counter-proposals.*
Coton.		
73. Coton brut ou peigné—		
Coton brut	8 pour cent.	
Coton peigné, teint ou blanchi	"	
74. Fils et mates de coton—		
Fil de coton à tisser, simple ou retors—		
Écru	"	10 to 15 per cent.
Blanchi	"	
Rouge	"	
Bleu	"	
Teint ou imprimé d'autres couleurs	"	
Fil à tricoter—		
Écru	"	
Blanchi	"	
Teint ou imprimé	"	
Fil à coudre	"	Prohibitory.
Fil de vigogne (coton et laine)	"	
Ouate	"	
75. Tissus, broderies, dentelles, passementerie, et bonneterie de coton—		
Étoffes écrues, savoir—		
Tulle, gaze, lisse	Jusqu'à 20 pour cent.	4 to 8 per cent.
" " façonné	"	
Autres tissus transparents, lisses	"	
" " " façonnés	"	
Toile ordinaire (Américaine)	"	18 to 20 per cent.
" fine (Américaine, dit "mahoudi")	"	
Tissus croisés et façonnés non transparents, tels que treillis, piquée, damas, étoffes pour essuie-mains non bouclés et autres tissus croisés	"	
Tissus veloutés	"	12 per cent.
Étoffes blanchis, savoir—		
Tissus transparents dits schapali, sensouk, mermerchalu, destinés pour faire des katemkiars	8 pour cent.	20 to 30 per cent.
Tulle, gaze, lisse	Jusqu'à 20 pour cent.	4 to 8 per cent.
" " façonné	"	
Autres étoffes transparentes, telles que— Mousseline, étoffe pour yachmaks, soukhez, sheancouli, tarlatane et semblables	"	30 to 34 per cent.
Autres étoffes transparentes façonnées, telles que— Rideaux tissés, mousseline damassée, tissus de Nottingham imitant les Valenciennes, &c.	"	
Toiles ordinaires, comme— Madapolam apprêté dit casaurli, triplures, window hollands.	"	
Toiles fines, comme— Madapolam apprêt naturel, shirting, toile de ménage, percale, toile à voile, &c.	"	20 to 30 per cent.
Tissus croisés ou façonnés, non transparents	"	
Étoffes veloutées	"	12 per cent.
Autres étoffes non transparentes blanchies, comme— Étoffes bouclées pour essuie-mains (havlu), molton, futaine, &c.	"	
Étoffes teintes, savoir—		
Tulle, gaze, lisse	"	
" " façonné	"	
Autres étoffes transparentes, lisses	"	
" " " façonnées	"	
Toiles ordinaires, comme— Doublures, madapolam apprêté, union cloth, Italian cloth, &c.	"	20 to 32 per cent.
Toiles fines, comme— Drap rouge et bleu, indiennes et calicots unis, bazés et autres	"	
Tissus croisés ou façonnés, non transparents	"	
Étoffes veloutées	"	
Autres étoffes non transparentes	"	
Étoffes imprimées, savoir—		
Kalemkiars yemeni	"	
Tulle, gaze, et autres étoffes transparentes, lisses	"	
" " " façonnées	"	
Toiles ordinaires	"	

* The first column shows the original proposals of the Turkish Commissioners.
The second column the counter-proposals to the plan for a Tariff based upon 8 per cent. *ad valorem* submitted by Consul Wrench.

	Taux de Taxe.	Counter-proposals.
75. Tissus, broderies, dentelles, passementerie, et bonneterie de coton (*suite*)—		
Etoffes imprimés, savoir—		
Toiles fines, comme—		
Indiennes et autres toiles fines—		
Fond clair	Jusqu'à 20 pour cent.	
Fond foncé jusqu'à quatre couleurs	"	20 to 32 per cent.
Fond foncé jusqu'à cinq couleurs	"	
Et plus	"	
Tissus croisés ou façonnés non transparents	"	
Autres étoffes non transparentes	"	
Etoffes tissées de fils teints, savoir—		
Articles tissés façonnés, comme—		
Peshtimals boghchas, châles, couvertures, et autres ..	"	
Etoffes, comme—		
Chingan, sheitulean (printaniers), alaljas, demi-coton, étoffes pour habillements, matelas, &c.	"	
Etoffes de coton brodées ou avec application (rideaux oghabanis et autres)	"	20 to 30 pour cent.
Passementerie et boutonnerie pure ou mélangée avec de fils métalliques tors, telle que—		
Franges, bordures, treillis, tresses, chenilles, cordons, &c.	"	
Passementerie et boutonnerie combinée avec du bois, corne, verre, caoutchouc, &c., comme boutons, glands, revêtus de coton sur forme de bois, corne, &c.	"	
Etoffes tissées de fils teints, savoir—		
Bonneterie, comme—		
Bas, gants, bonnets de nuit et autres	"	
Dentelles	"	
Autres articles en coton, comme—		
Filets de pêche, de chasse, et autres rets	"	
Mèches tissées	"	
Toile d'émérie	"	
Etoffes de toute espèce avec des fils d'or ou d'argent, fin ou faux	"	

No. 49.

Earl Granville to the Earl of Dufferin.

(No. 74. Commercial.) *Foreign Office, June 6, 1884.*

My Lord,

I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of your Excellency's despatch No. 107, Commercial, of the 31st ultimo, inclosing further Reports from Mr. Wrench relative to the proposed new Turkish Tariff.

I have to point out that, as these papers may hereafter be published, it is desirable that Mr. Wrench should in his Reports, in mentioning divisions of the Turkish Tariff, state, in English, the description of goods to which each division or chapter of the Tariff relates. He appears to have agreed to various augmentations of duty ranging from the existing uniform rate of 8 to 12 and 15 per cent. I should be glad to receive a full Report, together with your Excellency's observations, as to the extent to which in each class of goods British trade may be expected to be affected by these augmentations of duty.

I am, &c.
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 50.

Earl Granville to the Earl of Dufferin.

(No. 77. Commercial.) *Foreign Office, June 10, 1884.*

My Lord,

WITH reference to my despatch No. 69, Commercial, of the 26th ultimo, I have now to inform your Excellency that Mr. Wrench's Reports relative to the proposed new duties on cottons, which are inclosed in your despatch No. 94, Commercial, of the 17th May, have been considered in communication with Sir Joseph Lee, who, as

your Lordship is aware, was Chairman of the Manchester Committee appointed to advise on matters connected with trade between Lancashire and Turkey.

I inclose copies of Sir Joseph Lee's Report.*

It will be seen that the duties now proposed exceed the rates originally specified, as well as the amounts to which Her Majesty's Government have expressed their readiness to agree. In some instances this augmentation is considerable. I have therefore to request that your Excellency will instruct Mr. Wrench that, while Her Majesty's Government are not disposed to insist on the classification for cottons originally proposed, and are willing to accept that which is now advocated by the Ottoman Commissioners, they cannot accept the rates of duty recorded in the tabular statments submitted to them. Mr. Wrench should, therefore, after consideration of Sir Joseph Lee's letter, ask the Ottoman Commissioners to examine again the question of cotton duties, with the view to modify the rates now suggested, and to bring them into conformity with the scale which Her Majesty's Government can accept.

Mr. Wrench should further point out that high customs duties must inevitably, in a country with the geographical position and configuration of the Ottoman dominions, lead to smuggling and to frauds on the revenue, whereas a simple classification of merchandize and moderate duties will encourage home industry and foreign commerce, to the benefit of the Ottoman Treasury and to the welfare of the Sultan's subjects.

I am, &c.
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 51.

Consul-General Blunt to Earl Granville.—(*Received June 18.*)

(No. 11. Commercial.)

My Lord, *Salonica, June 9, 1884.*

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith, for the information of your Lordship, a copy of a despatch I have this day addressed to Her Majesty's Ambassador at Constantinople, forwarding a letter from Messrs. Casalli and Pantasidi, in which they point out how the importation, at Salonica, of some classes of British cotton yarns, is practically prohibited under the facilities the local cotton industry receives from the Turkish Government.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. E. BLUNT.

Inclosure 1 in No. 51.

Consul-General Blunt to the Earl of Dufferin.

My Lord, *Salonica, June 9, 1884.*

I HAVE the honour to inclose to your Lordship a copy of a letter of Messrs. Casalli and Pantasidi, British merchants, who import considerable quantities of Manchester cotton goods at Salonica, in which they point out how the importation of some classes of our cotton yarns is practically prohibited.

In my Report on the trade and commerce of Macedonia for the years 1879, 1880, and 1881, I referred to the decrease in the importation of British yarns of Nos. 4 to 14, caused by the establishment of two cotton-mills in this province; and a recent Report on the trade of Monastir for 1883 states that "the consumption of English goods has suffered a considerable reduction on account of the establishment of the cotton-spinning factories of Greece, and those of Salonica and Niausta, as formerly all the cotton yarns in use were exclusively English, and now, on account of the competition of these factories, they only obtain a very moderate sale."

I may add that the cotton industry in Macedonia has sensibly increased under the facilities it receives from the Turkish Government, and may, in a not distant future, succeed in expelling British yarns, especially the lower class of goods, from the chief markets in the Balkan peninsula. Under these circumstances, I venture respectfully to report that the letter I have inclosed from Messrs. Casalli and

* No. 48.

Pantásidi commends itself to the consideration of your Lordship in preparing the new Commercial Treaty with Turkey.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. E. BLUNT.

Inclosure 2 in No. 51.

Messrs. Casalli and Pantasidi to Consul-General Blunt.

Salonique, le 15 (27) *Mai*, 1884.

M. le Consul-Général,

NOUS avons l'honneur de vous exposer ce qui suit:

La consommation des fils Anglais des Nos. 4, 6, 8, et 10 est de plus en plus restreinte en cette ville pour les raisons suivantes:—

1. A cause de la filature de Saïas établie ici produisant déjà plus de 140,000 paquets par an, spécialement des dits numéros, d'une valeur de 70,000*l.* environ, produits qui ne sont frappés d'aucune taxe ou droit.

2. A cause de la valeur de l'ancien tarif, laquelle, étant la même pour tous les Nos. de 4 à 80, sans exception, pèse sur les numéros inférieurs, soit 4 à 10; avec une taxe de 10 à 13 pour cent proportionnellement. Cette taxe démesurée pour les fils Anglais de ces numéros provoqua le développement des produits de la susdite filature locale au préjudice de l'importation dans la Macédoine de fils Anglais; et

3. A cause de l'appréciation bien rude que la Douane de Salonique applique aux Nos. 4, 6, 8, et 10, après l'abolition du tarif, les commerçants se voyent obligés de payer ainsi un droit de 9 à 10 pour cent en argent ou l'équivalent en marchandise, ce qui est la même chose, bien que la Douane ne perçoit que 8 pour cent; mais avec les autres frais connexes cela revient de 9 à 10 pour cent au commerçant.

Nous ne voulons pas énumérer les diverses autres difficultés que les commerçants éprouvent à la Douane, bien qu'ils payent *ad valorem* droits. Nous disons seulement que cette estimation hardie de la Douane pour les Nos. 4 à 10 des fils Anglais, est doublement préjudiciable, au fisc et au peuple, parce que les fils Anglais étant démesurément taxés, et les commerçants étant frappés par plus d'une difficulté à la Douane, l'importation des susdits numéros, d'une si grande consommation dans cette province, diminue de jour en jour et la Douane en perd une recette de 5,000*l.* environ annuellement, puisque les produits de la filature Saïas qui remplacent ceux de l'Angleterre ne payent rien comme droit ou taxe.

Pour ce qui est des pauvres classes de la population, elles perdent aussi étant obligées d'acheter les produits de Saïas bien cher et à son gré, aucune concurrence entre ces produits et ceux de l'Angleterre ne pouvant naturellement se faire.

Cet état de choses pourra bien continuer en tant que la Douane ne cesse à percevoir une taxe exorbitante sur les fils Anglais et à entraver déversement le dédouanement [*sic*].

Nous avons cru de notre devoir de vous soumettre ces observations, M. le Consul-Général, dans la conviction que nous desservons les intérêts du commerce Britannique, en même temps que ceux de l'État Ottoman.

Nous sommes pourtant bien persuadés de l'intérêt que vous portez et du résultat heureux de votre bienveillante intervention.

Nous avons, &c.
(Signé) CASALLI ET PANTASIDI.

No. 52.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(Received June 18.)

(No. 114. Commercial.)

Constantinople, June 14, 1884.

My Lord,

WITH reference to my despatch No. 105, Commercial, of the 30th ultimo, to your Lordship, I have the honour to transmit herewith a copy of a note which has been addressed by the Ottoman Minister for Foreign Affairs to the Russian Embassy upon the subject of the Russo-Turkish Commercial Treaty, which has been kindly communicated to me by M. de Nélidow, the Russian Ambassador.

As your Lordship will perceive, the statement made by Assim Pasha in this note

respecting the views held by the Sublime Porte as to the nature and character of the Capitulations, is identic with that made in his Excellency's note to this Embassy of the 28th March, a copy of which was forwarded to your Lordship in my above-mentioned despatch.

I have, &c.
(Signed) DUFFERIN.

Inclosure in No. 52.

Assim Pasha to M. Nélidow.

Le 28 *Mai*, 1884.

J'AI pris connaissance de la note que votre Excellence a bien voulu adresser à mon prédécesseur le 21 Mars (2 Avril) passé concernant le Traité de Commerce.

Avant d'entrer dans l'examen des considérations émises dans cette note, je me fais un devoir de remercier votre Excellence du bon vouloir avec lequel le Gouvernement Impérial de Russie s'est empressé de s'associer aux vues de la Sublime Porte en consentant à l'élévation des droits de douane et en participant activement aux négociations actuellement engagées à ce sujet.

La Sublime Porte prend acte de ces bonnes dispositions.

Votre Excellence exprime l'opinion que si certaines clauses des Capitulations qui stipuleraient à perpétuité les droits, privilèges, et immunités du commerce et des sujets étrangers en Turquie, ont été modifiées par des Conventions subséquentes conclues pour des termes limités, ces modifications auraient perdu leur vigueur dès l'instant où les termes de ces Conventions ont expiré, et les clauses des Capitulations reprendraient *eo ipso* toute leur force et valeur. Je regrette, M. l'Ambassadeur, de devoir cette fois-ci encore déclarer à votre Excellence que la Sublime Porte ne saurait partager cette manière de voir. Les considérations développées dans la note de mon Département en date du 18 Mars, 1884, relativement à cet objet, sont trop explicites pour que le Gouvernement Impérial de Russie met [*sic*] à soutenir une thèse que la Sublime Porte avait tout espoir de voir abandonner devant le caractère indiscutable des arguments mis en avant dans sa note susmentionnée, je crois devoir entrer dans quelques développements avec la ferme conviction qu'ils serviront à faire dissiper tout doute dans l'esprit du Gouvernement de Sa Majesté l'Empereur.

En vertu d'un principe de droit universellement reconnu aussi bien en droit privé qu'en droit international, tout acte solennel conclu d'un commun accord, postérieurement à un autre et modifiant celui-ci dans sa totalité ou en partie, se substitue à l'acte précédent également dans le tout ou dans sa partie, suivant le cas. Ce dernier cesse d'exister pour toujours dans celles de ses parties qui ont été modifiées et, à l'expiration du dernier acte, les Parties Contractantes recouvrent leur liberté d'action. Si deux États tombent d'accord pour modifier les stipulations servant de bases à leurs relations dans les temps passés, c'est évidemment pour la raison que toutes les deux parties étaient convaincues du caractère inconciliable de ces stipulations avec les exigences de l'époque.

Maintenant si, après l'expiration des arrangements ultérieurs, les anciens actes déjà reconnus comme surannés et abolis, recommençaient à lier les deux parties, il en résulterait un état de choses rien moins qu'admissible et qui serait sans précédent. La conséquence de ce principe qui ne souffre aucun doute, votre Excellence voudra bien en convenir, est que le Gouvernement Impérial n'est point lié par les clauses contenues dans les Capitulations touchant les droits de douane, clauses qui ont été modifiées dans les Traités de Commerce intervenus subséquemment, et qu'à l'expiration de ces derniers actes la Sublime Porte est fondée à recouvrer sa liberté d'action.

En ce qui regarde enfin la question du traitement de la nation la plus favorisée, tout en maintenant les considérations émises dans la note susvisée de mon Département en date du 18 Mars, 1884, et tout en réservant la discussion de cette question du principe, je me permettrai de faire remarquer à votre Excellence que les appréhensions que le Gouvernement Impérial de Russie semble avoir au sujet du traitement à appliquer au commerce Russe ne réposent sur aucun fait.

Tout au contraire, après l'expiration du Traité de Commerce de 1862, la Sublime Porte n'a point traité le commerce Russe sur un pied différent de celui des autres États et elle a même promis, dans le Projet de Convention provisoire proposée à la signature du Gouvernement de Sa Majesté l'Empereur dans sa note du 6 Décembre,

1883, de continuer ce traitement pendant la période de temps qui paraît nécessaire pour la conclusion des nouveaux arrangements.

En terminant je n'ai qu'à insister sur la conclusion d'une Convention provisoire dans le sens de la note susmentionnée du 6 Décembre, 1883, étant convaincu que c'est le seul mode propre à concilier tous les intérêts et à rassurer le commerce sur le régime qui pourra lui être appliqué en attendant la conclusion d'un Traité définitif.

Veuillez, &c.

No. 53.

Earl Granville to the Earl of Dufferin.

(No. 81. Commercial.)

Foreign Office, June 24, 1884.

My Lord,

IT is possible that before the close of the Session of Parliament inquiry may be made with regard to commercial relations with Turkey, and that papers on the subject may be asked for. In this event it would be necessary to publish the correspondence relative to the claim of this country to most-favoured-nation treatment, and to afford information respecting the progress of the Tariff negotiations. As regards this last point, the most convenient course perhaps would be not to lay the whole correspondence, or the *procès-verbaux* of the Tariff Conferences and the Tables annexed to them; but a statement showing what has been done in the matter and what remains to be considered.

I have therefore to request that your Excellency will obtain from Mr. Wrench a Report which shall be complete in itself, stating the divisions of the Turkish Tariff which, up to the end of this month, have been examined in detail by the Ottoman Delegates and himself, and the results arrived at. Under these results should be stated, more particularly, the rate of duty proposed for each description of goods, the classification adopted; how far any augmentation of duty agreed to will affect British trade; and any other subjects which Mr. Wrench, from his communications with persons in the United Kingdom interested in trade with Turkey, thinks important. Mr. Wrench should then proceed to state what portion of the Turkish Tariff still remains to be examined. As regards cottons, and any other goods in the divisions of the Tariff already discussed, where your Excellency or Mr. Wrench entertain doubt with respect to the rate of duty proposed, the best course will be to state briefly the contention on each side, and to say that the matter is still under discussion. The designations of goods, weights, &c., mentioned in the Report now called for are to be given in English, and whenever foreign currency for payment of duty, or foreign weights in its assessment require to be mentioned, the English equivalents must be stated.

I have, in conclusion, to request that your Excellency will acknowledge the receipt of this despatch, and that your Lordship will say (approximately) when the Report called for may be expected to reach this Office.

I am, &c.

(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 54.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(Received July 2.)

(No. 115. Commercial.)

Therapia, June 15, 1884.

My Lord,

YOUR Lordship will have received from Mr. Blunt a copy of the despatch which he addressed to me, No. 24 of the 9th instant, inclosing a letter from Messrs. Casulli and Pantasidi, of Salonica, respecting the diminution which has taken place in the importation of certain classes of English cotton yarns.

As the information supplied by the above gentlemen may be of some use in preparing the Commercial Treaty with Turkey, I have thought it right to communicate Mr. Blunt's despatch and its inclosure to Mr. Wrench.

I have, &c.

(Signed) DUFFERIN.

No. 55.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(Received July 2.)

(No. 119. Commercial.)

Therapia, June 20, 1884.

My Lord,

WITH reference to your despatch No. 77, Commercial, of the 10th instant, I have the honour to inform your Lordship that I have forwarded to Mr. Wrench copies of Sir Joseph Lee's Reports respecting the proposed new duties on cottons, and have duly communicated to him your Lordship's instructions as to the language he is to hold upon that head to the Ottoman Commissioners.

I have, &c.

(Signed) DUFFERIN.

No. 56.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(Received July 9.)

(No. 130. Commercial.)

Therapia, July 5, 1884.

My Lord,

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's despatch No. 81, Commercial, of the 24th ultimo, and to state that, in compliance with your Lordship's instructions, I have directed Mr. Wrench to draw up a Report upon the Anglo-Turkish Commercial negotiations in the form desired.

I regret to have to inform your Lordship that Mr. Wrench has been lately suffering from severe indisposition, and that he is still far from well; he tells me, however, that he hopes to have the Report ready by next Saturday, or at the latest by the Tuesday following.

I have, &c.

(Signed) DUFFERIN.

No. 57.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(Received July 16.)

(No. 133. Commercial.)

Therapia, July 8, 1884.

My Lord,

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith, for your Lordship's information, a copy of a despatch which I have received from Mr. Wrench, forwarding copies of the Minutes of the seventeenth, eighteenth, and nineteenth meetings of the Commission appointed for the preparation of the new Commercial Tariff.

I have the honour to call your Lordship's attention to the remarks contained in Mr. Wrench's despatch, and to his request for information as to whether soda and potash should be included in the same category as the chemical salts, acids, and oxides, as suggested by his colleagues, in a rearrangement of Article 17.

I have, &c.

(Signed) DUFFERIN.

Inclosure 1 in No. 57.

Consul Wrench to the Earl of Dufferin.

Constantinople, July 4, 1884.

My Lord,

I HAVE been prevented by indisposition from forwarding at an earlier date to your Excellency the Minutes of the seventeenth, eighteenth, and nineteenth meetings of the Commission appointed for the preparation of the new Commercial Tariff, which documents I now have the honour to transmit.

The Annex to the *procès-verbal* of the seventeenth sitting relates, in Chapter 41, to fine articles of iron (and steel)—"Articles fins en fer." In this chapter the duties on knitting needles ("Aiguilles à tricoter") and wire gauze ("Toiles métalliques en

fer") stand at 12 per cent. on average values, and on the remaining articles at 15 per cent.

Your Excellency will remark that in this chapter many articles have been grouped together, at my suggestion, at a rate of duty of 240 piastres per 100 kilog., which represents nominally 15 per cent., but which in reality allows needles of all sorts, metallic pins, and clock and watch springs, &c., to be introduced at a very low rate of duty. British trade is interested to a certain extent in needles and pins and other fine articles coming under this description.

The remaining chapters of the 17th Annex treat of common metals other than iron, and embrace from No. 42 to No. 48. Chapters 49 to 57, which complete the classification of the same metals, are to be found in the Annex to the 19th *procès-verbal* herein transmitted.

I have proposed to my Ottoman colleagues to rearrange these chapters with a view of uniting several of the manufactures of common metals and their various alloys, and thus avoiding confusion and disputes in the future. My proposals have been favourably received, and will probably be carried out; it will thus be sufficient to state that all minerals and raw ("brut") materials in those metals, as well as unfinished articles ("Ouvrages incomplets"), were taxed at 8 per cent., and finished wares ("Articles finis") at 15 per cent.

The exceptions to this latter rule are at present to be found in lead printing type ("Caractères d'imprimerie"), which are taxed at 8 per cent., and common articles of copper and brass, mentioned in the two items of Chapter 57, the duties on which are calculated at the rate of 12 per cent.

In the Annex to the 18th *procès-verbal* will be found, in the first place, "indigo," which has given rise to very considerable difficulty.

This article was for the first time under consideration on the 25th March last, when my Ottoman colleagues maintained that the value of the average arrivals of the three qualities of Bengal, Kurpah, and Madras, represented 6,200 piastres per 100 kilog., whereas I endeavoured to prove that 4,500 piastres was a nearer estimate. At several sittings has this article formed the topic of discussion between my colleagues and myself. They produced evidence from books of the Custom-house, from local dealers, and from local prices-current, to prove that their valuation was moderate, and considering that Bengal indigo, as imported, varies (without the expense of transport, commission, insurance, &c.) from 4*s.* 8*d.* to 6*s.* 10*d.* per lb., Kurpeh from 2*s.* 7*d.* to 3*s.* 9*d.*, and Madras from 1*s.* 3*d.* to 2*s.* 7*d.*, that the average value of indigo as a whole depends upon the quantities imported of the various qualities, and that it was considered on all sides that it was not practical to have a separate category for each description of indigo—it was not an easy matter to arrive at a satisfactory conclusion.

My German colleague, in the course of his negotiations, which took place simultaneously with my own, accepted in April the sum of 6,000 piastres as representing a fair average value, and eventually, on the 28th May, after collecting a goodly amount of evidence derived from invoices—obtained from importers with great difficulty—I at length prevailed upon my colleagues to accept of 5,000 piastres as the value upon which the 8 per cent. duty should be levied, and of admitting 25 per cent. as the amount of tare to be deducted from indigo in cases.

I have entered with some detail into the question of indigo, as it will give your Excellency a very fair idea of the manner in which I have conducted negotiations with regard to all articles of import, especially to those affecting British trade. I endeavour to induce my colleagues by all available means to reduce their values to what I consider to be the fair average rates. Sometimes I succeed to my satisfaction, at other times, after arguing the point during two or three sittings, according to its importance, I have to accept a compromise, for I need hardly point out that as Michael Effendi has been for upwards of fifteen years the head of a Department in the Constantinople Custom-house, and that as Bertram Effendi and Püschel Effendi are European experts, they are in a position to bring forward documentary evidence and arguments against which it is not always possible to contend. In thus accepting a compromise I adopt the same line of conduct as my German colleague, but deviate from that followed by my Russian colleague. The former preceded me in the examination of almost every item of the new Tariff that I have as yet negotiated, and I am oftentimes met by the argument that M. Gillet has accepted a certain value for goods which are imported into Turkey cheaper from Germany than from England. I have nevertheless, in nine cases out of ten, obtained a reduction on M. Gillet's values when I have considered them too high, and propose pointing out to my successors of Belgium, Austria, and

France such articles as I still consider over-estimated, in order that when their turn comes they may argue for still further reductions in the interests of all concerned.

M. Timiriaseff, my Russian colleague, on the other hand, accepts without discussion whatever has been settled by M. Gillet and myself with regard to all merchandize in which Russia is not especially interested; but with respect to the raw produce of Russia, when, after having exhausted all his arguments, he fails to bring his colleagues to his own opinions, he refers the matter in dispute to his Government, and the result is that although he has been at Constantinople engaged on the business of the Tariff since last August, he has, on more than one occasion, broken off relations pending an answer to his representations to St. Petersburgh, and has now, for some three weeks, had no meetings with his colleagues. A complaint of his manner of proceeding has also been recently addressed by the Porte, through the Turkish Ambassador at St. Petersburgh, to the Russian Government.

Had I adopted the same mode of action as the Russian Delegate, I should now have made but little progress in the Tariff, and I should have caused much embarassment to Her Majesty's Government; for, taking indigo, iron, glass, or earthenware as examples of British trade, and the three articles now in dispute between the Russian Delegate and his colleagues, namely: wheat, flour, and spirits of wine as examples of Russian trade, it is evident that divergences of opinion with regard to the values of the average of arrivals of the former could not be dealt with in the same simple manner as those arising out of the values of raw produce.

Having given the above explanation as to my mode of conducting these negotiations, and trusting that it may not incur your Lordship's disapproval, I will proceed to offer observations on the remaining chapters of the Annexes inclosed.

In the Annex to the 18th *Procès-verbal*, Chapter 85 is devoted to carpets. In the discussion at the Custom-house of these goods, I was fortunate to be able to secure the assistance of a foreign importer who is the agent of Messrs. J. Crossley and Sons, of Halifax, and of other English houses. The results obtained were considered satisfactory by this gentleman. The duties on carpets were fixed at 15 per cent., with the exception of those on Kidderminister, &c. ("*g.* Simplement tissés, ni bouclés, ni velontés"), and of the two varieties of felt carpetings, upon which I obtained a reduction to 12 per cent. duty.

At the nineteenth meeting, my colleagues presented to me a rearrangement of the 17th article: Chemical salts, acids, and oxides ("sels, acides, et oxydes") which I had previously discussed and forwarded to your Excellency the Annexes to the 3rd, 4th, and 8th *Procès-verbaux*. I accepted this rearrangement, subject to the approval of Her Majesty's Government, but gave my colleagues to understand that I thought it very possible that the Government would not approve of soda and potash being placed in the same categorie at the same prices.

A comparison of the Annexes mentioned above with the Annex to the nineteenth sitting, will show at once the points with regard to soda and potash to which I call attention, and as those are the only articles in the rearrangement which may call for alteration, I would request that I may be informed whether the old or the new classification and prices best suit English trade. A reference to the "Alkali Association of Liverpool," of which Mr. E. K. Muspratt is Secretary, would, I think, be the most expeditious and certain way of arriving at a satisfactory solution of this question.

I have, &c.
(Signed) WILLIAM H. WRENCH.

Inclosure 2 in No. 57.

Procès-verbal No. 17.—*Séance du* 8 (20) *Mai*, 1884.

LES Délégués des Gouvernements de Turquie et d'Angleterre se sont réunis aujourd'hui le 8 (20) Mai, 1884.

Les Délégués Ottomans sont assistés par Püschel Effendi, Chef des Commissions d'Evaluations.

Le procès-verbal de la séance précédente est lu et approuvé.

Revenant sur les propositions de Mr. Wrench relativement à une classification plus simple des groupes No. 40 et 41, les Délégués arrêtent pour le groupe No. 41 la classification et les droits consignés dans l'Annexe pour tous les articles de ce groupe sauf la coutellerie. Ensuite les Délégués ont examiné les groupes Nos. 42, 43, 44, 45, 46,

47, et 48 du Projet de Tarif, et sont tombés d'accord sur les résultats fixés dans l'Annexe.

(Signé) WILLIAM H. WRENCH.
E. BERTRAM.
MICHAËL PORTUGAL.

Pour copie conforme:
Le Secrétaire,
(Signé) J. P. VAZZIDIS.

Annexe au Procès-verbal No. 17.

41. ARTICLES FINS DE FER.

Dénomination des Marchandises.			Droit, piastres or.
			Prs. c.
Aiguilles à tricoter	100 kilog.	..	60 00
Épingles à cheveux	"	..	50 00
Toiles métalliques en fer	"	..	85 00
Crochets à tricoter, aiguilles à emballage et à voiles, aiguilles à coudre, épingles en métaux communs autres que les épingles à cheveux, plumes métalliques à écrire, perles d'acier, planchettes pour corsets et autres, jouets, boutons, parures d'homme et de femme non comprises au groupe No. 98; bagues et dés à coudre, sonnettes et clochettes, ressorts pour horlogerie, et en général tous les articles en fer, fonte, ou acier, vernis au vernis de laque, en fonte fine, en fer poli, en acier poli, en fil de fer ou d'acier poli, ou bien en fer ou en acier combinés avec des matières autres que le bois et non compris au groupe No. 98	"	..	240 00

42. MINERAIS DE PLOMB.

Minerais de plomb	100 kilog.	..	3 00

43. MATÉRIAUX BRUTS DE PLOMB.

Plomb brut en lingots ou barres; débris de vieux ouvrages en plomb	100 kilog.	..	12 00

44. OUVRAGES INCOMPLETS DE PLOMB.

Plomb en feuilles et fil de plomb	100 kilog.	..	16 00

45. ARTICLES FINIS DE PLOMB.

Caractères d'imprimerie	100 kilog.	..	130 00
Ouvrages en plomb, communs, tels que: vases, cuves, tuyaux, plomb de chasse	"	..	30 00
Autres articles même combinés avec du fer et du bois non polis ni vernis	"	..	67 00
Ouvrages fins ou vernis; ouvrages en plomb combinés avec des matières autres que le bois et le fer, ainsi que les parures d'homme et de femme non comprises au groupe No. 98, les boutons, les cuillers, les jouets, et autres articles semblables	"	..	135 00

46. MINERAIS DE ZINC.

Minerais de zinc	100 kilog.	..	2 00

47. MATÉRIAUX BRUTS DE ZINC.

Zinc brut en lingots, barres	100 kilog.	..	16 00
Débris de vieux ouvrages en zinc et déchets de zinc	"	..	12 00

48. OUVRAGES INCOMPLETS EN ZINC.

Zinc en feuilles, en plaques, et fil de zinc	100 kilog.	..	18 00

(Signé) WILLIAM H. WRENCH.
E. BERTRAM.
MICHAËL PORTUGAL.

Pour copie conforme:
Le Secrétaire,
(Signé) J. P. VAZZIDIS.

Inclosure 3 in No. 57.

Procès-verbal No. 18.—*Séance du* 16 (28) *Mai*, 1884.

LES Délégués des Gouvernements d'Angleterre et de Turquie se sont réunis aujourd'hui, le 16 (28) Mai, 1884.

Les Délégués Ottomans étaient assistés par Püschel Effendi, Chef des Commissions d'Évaluations.

Le Délégué Anglais est assisté par M. Moussat, négociant.

Le procès-verbal de la séance précédente est lu et approuvé.

Les Délégués examinent la suite du No. 19 et le No. 85 du Projet de Tarif, et tombent d'accord sur les résultats fixés dans l'Annexe.

(Signé) WILLIAM H. WRENCH.
E. BERTRAM.
MICHAËL PORTUGAL.

Pour copie conforme:
Le Secrétaire,
(Signé) J. P. VAZZIDIS.

Annexe au Procès-verbal No. 18.

19. MATIÈRES TINCTORIALES, COULEURS (*suite*).

Dénomination des Marchandises.			Droit, piastres or.
			Prs. c.
Indigo	100 kilog.	..	400 00
N.B.—La tare pour l'indigo est fixée à 25 pour cent par caisse.			

85. TISSUS, TAPIS, FEUTRES, DENTELLES, BONNETERIE, ET PASSEMENTERIE EN LAINE.

Tapis—			
(*a.*) A nœuds, tels que: tapis orientaux et ses imitations Européennes	100 kilog.	..	450 00
(*b.*) Entrelacés, tels que: kilims, gobelins, et semblables	"	..	900 00
(*c.*) Tissés et bouclés, chaîne imprimée (tapestry)	"	..	180 00
(*d.*) Tissés et veloutés, chaîne imprimée (tapis velours)	"	..	300 00
(*e.*) Tissés et bouclés, chaîne non imprimée (tapis Bruxelles)	"	..	300 00
(*f.*) Tissés et veloutés, chaîne non imprimée (Tournay-velvet, Axminster) et tapis chenille	"	..	360 00
(*g.*) Simplement tissés, ni bouclés, ni veloutés (Kidderminster, &c.)	"	..	162 00
Feutres—			
(*a.*) Non teints	"	..	120 00
(*b.*) Teints ou imprimés	"	..	144 00

(Signé) WILLIAM H. WRENCH.
E. BERTRAM.
MICHAËL PORTUGAL.

Pour copie conforme:
Le Secrétaire,
(Signé) J. P. VAZZIDIS.

Inclosure 4 in No. 57.

Procès-verbal No. 19.—*Séance du* 22 *Mai* (3 *Juin*), 1884.

LES Délégués des Gouvernements de Turquie et d'Angleterre se sont réunis aujourd'hui, le 22 Mai (3 Juin), 1884.

Les Délégués Ottomans étaient assistés par Püschel Effendi, Chef des Commissions d'Évaluations.

Le procès-verbal de la séance précédente est lu et approuvé.

Les Délégués Ottomans présentent à Mr. Wrench un nouveau Tableau du groupe No. 17 en abrogation des Tableaux arrêtés dans les séances du 21 Janvier (2 Février),

et du 31 Janvier (12 Février) dernier. Mr. Wrench ayant déjà référé à son Gouvernement les premiers Tableaux, s'engage à appeler l'attention du Foreign Office sur les avantages que présente la nouvelle classification.

Ensuite les Délégués ont examiné les Nos. 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, et 58 du Projet de Tarif, et sont tombés d'accord sur les résultats fixés dans l'Annexe.

Mr. Wrench déclare adopter tout ce qui a été arrêté pour les métaux communs, sauf le fer, en vue d'une simplification ultérieure de la classification de ces articles.

(Signé) WILLIAM H. WRENCH.
E. BERTRAM.
MICHAËL PORTUGAL.

Pour copie conforme :
Le Secrétaire,
(Signé) J. P. VAZZIDIS.

Annexe au Procès-verbal No. 19.

17. Sels, Acides, et Oxydes.

Dénomination des Marchandises.	Unité.	Droit, piastres or.
		Pts. c.
Soude (carbonate de soude) raffiné, brute, ou cristallisée	100 kilog.	5 00
Soude calcinée et potasse (carbonate de potasse)	"	7 00
Soude et potasse caustiques en état liquide ou solide	"	16 00
Bicarbonate de soude	"	12 00
Silicate de potasse ou de soude liquide	"	12 00
Salpêtre (nitrate de potasse)		Prohibé
Sel de cuisine (gemme et marin)		Prohibé
Chlorure de chaux et de potassium; autres sels de blanchiment	100 kilog.	6 50
Alums—		6 00
(a.) Brute		24 00
(b.) Raffinés et calcinés		5 00
Sulfate de soude et de magnésie		100 00
Sulfate et autres sels de quinine et de morphine	Le kilog.	36 00
Sel ammoniaque (chlorhydrate d'ammonique)	100 kilog.	100 00
Crème de tartre	"	20 00
Ammoniaque liquide	"	1 60
Couperoses—		
(a.) Vertes (sulfate de fer)	"	16 00
(b.) Bleues (sulfate de cuivre); et blanches (sulfate de zinc)	"	6 00
Acide sulfurique	"	5 00
" muriatique ou chlorhydrique	"	20 00
" nitrique	"	16 00
" phénique liquide	"	200 00
" citrique	"	144 00
" tartrique	"	
Tous les (3) autres sels, acides, oxydes, et produits chimiques non-dénommés ailleurs	"	45 00

49. Articles finis de Zinc.

Ouvrages communs en zinc, même en combinaison avec du bois ou du fer, non polis ni vernis, tels que: feuilles et plaques de zinc estampées, bombées ou percées de trous; vases, cuves, chaudrons, tuyaux, ornements pour constructions; articles communs en fil de zinc	100 kilog.	60 00
Ouvrages fins en zinc et ouvrages en zinc combinés avec des matières autres que le bois et le fer, ainsi que les parures d'homme et de femme non comprises au Groupe No. 98, les boutons, les jouets, et les ornements pour constructions cuivrés ou vernis	"	135 00

50. Minerais d'Étain.

Minerais d'étain	100 kilog.	16 00

51. Matériaux bruts d'Étain.

Étain en lingots et en barres; débris de vieux ouvrages et déchets d'étain	100 kilog.	92 00

52. Ouvrages incomplets d'Étain.

Étain en plaques, en feuilles, et fil d'étain	100 kilog.	92 00

(3) Effacer l'article "les."

Dénomination des Marchandises.	Unité.	Droit, piastres or.
		Pts. c.
53. Articles finis d'Étain.		
Ouvrages communs en étain, tels que: tuyaux, plats, assiettes, chaudrons et autres vases même en combinaison avec du bois ou du fer non polis, ni (1) vernis	100 kilog.	156 00
Ouvrages finis (1) en étain, même vernis et les ouvrages en étain combinés avec des matières autres que le bois ou le fer, ainsi que les parures d'homme ou (2) de femme non comprises au Groupe No. 98, les jouets, les boutons, les cuillers, les théières et autres articles semblables	"	270 00
54. Minerais de Cuivre et d'autres Métaux communs.		
Minerais de cuivre et d'autres métaux communs non dénommés ailleurs	100 kilog.	8 00
55. Métaux (2) bruts de Cuivre et d'autres Métaux communs.		
Cuivre brut, en lingots	100 kilog.	60 00
Débris de vieux ouvrages en cuivre	"	48 00
Autres métaux communs bruts, non dénommés aux Groupes Nos. 36–57, en lingots, ainsi que les débris de ces métaux; nickel, bronze, packfong, tombac et autres alliages bruts de métaux communs, en lingots, ainsi que les débris de ces alliages	"	64 00
Laiton brut en lingots et débris de laiton	"	32 00
56. Ouvrages incomplets de Cuivre ou d'autres Métaux communs.		
Cuivre forgé ou laminé, en barres, en feuilles même découpées pour plateaux ainsi que fil de cuivre	100 kilog.	72 00
Laiton forgé ou laminé, en barres, en feuilles même découpées pour plateaux ainsi que fil de laiton	"	64 00
Nickel, aluminium et autres métaux communs, bronze, packfong, et autres alliages communs forgés ou laminés, en barres, en feuilles même découpées pour plateaux, ainsi que les fils de ces métaux ou alliages	"	120 00
57. Articles finis de Cuivre et d'autres Métaux ou Alliages communs.		
Ouvrages de chaudronnier et de fondeur de laiton, et autres ouvrages communs, mais non vernis en cuivre et en fonte de laiton, tels que: alambics, carreaux à repasser, seaux, poids, chaînières, crochets, robinets, truelles, lampes, chandeliers, mouchettes, mortiers, verroux, tuyaux et tubes, serrures, écrous et boulons à vis, plats, garnitures et peintures de portes, (2) de fenêtres, de coffres et de voitures, plateaux et bassins de balances, et tous les ouvrages communs analogues même en combinaison avec du bois ou du fer, non polis, non vernis, ainsi que tous les ouvrages en feuille de laiton	100 kilog.	180 00
Toile métallique, tissus et tresses de fil de cuivre, de laiton, &c.	"	300 00
Autres ouvrages en cuivre et en laiton, même combinés avec d'autres matières, non compris au Groupe No. 98, ainsi que tous les ouvrages en métal britannique	"	270 00
Ouvrages en aluminium, nickel, packfong, bronze, et autres métaux ou alliages communs même combinés avec d'autres matières non compris au Groupe No. 98	"	525 00
58. Métaux précieux.		
Or, brut ou en lingots, ainsi que les débris de vieux objets et les déchets		Exempts.
Argent, brut ou en lingots, ainsi que les débris de vieux objets et les déchets	"	"
Platine, brut ou en lingots; ainsi que les débris de vieux objets et les déchets	"	"

(Signé) WILLIAM H. WRENCH.
E. BERTRAM.
MICHAËL PORTUGAL.

Pour copie conforme (sauf les corrections suivantes) :—
Le Secrétaire,
(Signé) J. P. VAZZIDIS.

(1) Remplacer le mot "ni" par le mot "non."
(1) Remplacer le mot "finis" par le mot "fins."
(2) Remplacer le mot "ou" par le mot "et."
(2) Remplacer le mot "métaux" par le mot "matériaux." (2) Ajouter le mot "et."

No. 58.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(Received July 16.)

(No. 137. Commercial.) *Therapia, July 10, 1884.*

My Lord,

I HAVE the honour to report that some time ago the French Embassy addressed a note to the Sublime Porte requesting that French merchants should be granted the right to opt between the duties specified in the Franco-Turkish Tariff and the 8 per cent. *ad valorem* duty on imported goods.

On the 18th ultimo the Sublime Porte replied to M. de Noailles that it was unable to entertain his Excellency's demand, and I have learnt that since the above date the French Embassy has addressed a further note to the Sublime Porte withdrawing its request, and demanding that the Tariff should be considered as expired.

I have, &c.
(Signed) DUFFERIN.

No. 59.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(Received July 16.)

(No. 138. Commercial.) *Therapia, July 10, 1884.*

My Lord,

I HAVE the honour to report that an interchange of views recently took place between the Austrian Embassy and the Sublime Porte on the subject of the Austro-Turkish Commercial Treaty.

As far as I am able to learn, the following is a summary of the views held on this question by the Sublime Porte and the Austrian Government respectively.

The Austrian Government considers that the proposals of the Sublime Porte to maintain the provisions of the Tariff, which expired on the 15th ultimo, is entirely contrary to the spirit of the Treaty, and, consequently, declines to accept any modifications except on the basis of the 8 per cent. *ad valorem* system.

The Sublime Porte, on the other hand, maintains that the Tariff cannot be set aside except by the mutual consent of the two Contracting Parties, and that the proposed modifications are proved by experience to be necessary; but it states that if Austria will consent to authorize its Delegate to enter into negotiations with the Ottoman Delegates, the Ottoman Government will agree to the setting aside of the Tariff, and, consequently, to the system of 8 per cent. *ad valorem* upon imported goods. In support of its original arguments respecting the proposed increase of import dues, the Sublime Porte assured Baron Calice that Austrian goods would not be taxed more heavily than those imported from other countries, and that any increase in the rate of these duties would compensate, in part, for the loss incurred to the Ottoman Treasury by the reduction of the rates of duties levied on other articles by the unification of the Tariff, the suppression of transit dues, and by the outlay necessary for the improvement of the Custom-house service. The Sublime Porte added that 20 per cent. would be the highest rate of duty levied on any class of goods.

I am further informed that the Austrian Embassy has just addressed a fresh communication to the Sublime Porte, reiterating its former arguments in favour of the maintenance of the Tariff, and also claiming most-favoured-nation treatment.

I have, &c.
(Signed) DUFFERIN.

No. 60.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(Received July 16.)

(No. 139. Commercial.) *Therapia, July 11, 1884.*

My Lord,

WITH reference to my despatch No. 114, Commercial, of the 14th ultimo, I have the honour to inform your Lordship that the Russian Embassy has recently addressed a further note to the Sublime Porte on the subject of the Russo-Turkish Commercial Treaty.

In this note M. de Nélidow reiterates his contention that the expiration of the Treaty cannot in any way affect the perpetual validity of the Capitulations, and impress upon the Sublime Porte the necessity of giving immediate instructions to the Turkish Delegates to come to an understanding on the subject with the Russian Delegate.

In conclusion, M. de Nélidow begs the Sublime Porte to communicate to him its views respecting the bases on which the Provisional Convention is to be concluded.

I have, &c.
(Signed) DUFFERIN.

No. 61.

Earl Granville to the Earl of Dufferin.

(No. 97. Commercial.)

My Lord, *Foreign Office, July 19, 1884.*

IN reply to your Excellency's despatch No. 133, Commercial, of the 8th instant, I have to state that, in order to prevent any misapprehension, it will be the best course for Mr. Wrench to supply your Lordship, for transmission to me, with a short statement containing the exact points in connection with duties on chemicals, on which he wishes to obtain Mr. Muspratt's opinion. This statement will then be referred to him, and any mistake in the matter will be avoided.

I am, &c.
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 62.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(Received July 21.)

(No. 146. Commercial.)

My Lord, *Therapia, July 15, 1884.*

WITH reference to my despatch to your Lordship No. 115, Commercial, of the 15th ultimo, in which I stated that I had communicated to Mr. Wrench Mr. Consul-General Blunt's despatch No. 24 of the 9th ultimo, respecting the diminution of imports in British cotton yarns in the district of Salonica, I have the honour to inclose herewith copy of a despatch addressed to me by Mr. Wrench containing his remarks on Mr. Blunt's above-mentioned despatch.

I have, &c.
(Signed) DUFFERIN.

Inclosure in No. 62.

Mr. Wrench to the Earl of Dufferin.

My Lord, *Constantinople, July 12, 1884.*

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Excellency's despatch of the 15th ultimo, inclosing a communication from Mr. Consul-General Blunt, which I herein return.

In this communication Mr. Blunt incloses a letter from Messrs. Casalli and Pantasidi, of Salonica, on the subject of the diminution that has taken place in the importation of certain low classes of English cotton yarns into Salonica.

The question of the exclusion of British yarns from any of the markets of Turkey is one that should engage our attention. It may be that local factories, whenever they have been able to produce yarns in successful competition with British imported yarns, flourish under circumstances independent of custom-house dues. Quoting from a Report addressed to your Excellency by Mr. Blunt on the 19th June, 1883, it would appear that under the Tariff of 1861 imported yarns, Nos. 4 to 14, paid 4·55 piastres duty per packet of 10 lbs., whereas the same numbers paid *ad valorem* 2·45 piastres. It would be interesting to know whether the diminution in duty has, during the past year, produced any revival in importations. Messrs. Casalli and Pantasidi do not

report that it has done so, and if it has not, the fact would point to the conclusion that no manipulation of the new Commercial Tariff will protect British yarns against native productions in the Salonica district.

One paragraph in Messrs. Casalli and Pantasidi's letter is not very clear. It is as follows:—

"Pour ce qui est des pauvres classes de la population elles perdent aussi, étant obligées d'acheter les produits de Saïns bien cher et à son gré, aucune concurrence entre ces produits et ceux de l'Angleterre ne pouvant naturellement se faire."

Surely if the poor purchase the yarns of Messrs. Saïas below the current prices of imported yarns, they cannot be said to suffer greatly; and if they purchase them above that price, competition is possible.

However that may be, the question I have to consider is whether any relief can be obtained through the new Tariff. In that Tariff the Ottoman Delegates propose a tax equivalent to 3·09 piastres on all numbers of cotton yarns. This tax is admitted by Manchester manufacturers to represent 8 per cent. on the whole average of importation, and consequently more than that rate on the lower numbers. But the manufacturers do not advocate separate classifications for the different numbers of yarns, and the Reports I have previously addressed to your Excellency have repeatedly adverted to the advantages of simplicity in classifications. I shall consequently, unless otherwise instructed by your Excellency, suggest no subdivisions in the new Tariff with respect to cotton yarns.

I have, &c.
(Signed) WILLIAM H. WRENCH.

No. 63.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(*Received July 21.*)

(No. 147. Commercial. Confidential.)

Therapia, July 15, 1884.

My Lord,

I HAVE the honour of forwarding to you a despatch from Mr. Wrench, containing a Report upon the present stage of the Tariff negotiations, as well as the information called for by your Lordship in your despatch No. 81, Commercial, of the 21th June.

I have carefully studied Mr. Wrench's despatch, with the view of considering whether it can be advantageously supplemented by any observations of my own, but it does not appear to me to call for comment.

From the time Mr. Wrench commenced his arduous and difficult task I have been in constant communication with him, and we have considered together the various questions which have been raised between Mr. Wrench and the Turkish Delegates. As your Lordship is aware, before leaving England, Mr. Wrench spent several weeks in visiting the various seats of our home industries and manufactures, with the view of acquiring the minute technical information necessary to a correct apprehension of the important issues about to be raised. He has also placed himself in communication with the leading British merchants residing at Constantinople, and he appears to me so far to have exhibited tact, intelligence, and ability in dealing with the successive items of the Tariff which have been submitted to the examination of the Commissioners. There is no doubt that the change from the previous Tariff to the present 8 per cent. *ad valorem* duties, has proved a ruinous one to Turkey; nor can we expect the Porte to agree to its maintenance otherwise than as a temporary arrangement.

Of course the important question is whether the new rates of duties will prove prejudicial to English trade. Upon such a point one cannot pronounce with certainty, but my conviction is that they will not, but that, on the contrary, the importer will find his account in the simplification of the Tariff, and in the consequent disappearance of those fraudulent exactions which have hitherto acted as such an onerous surcharge, in the shape of bribes, to the regular demands of the Turkish Custom-house, especially when we take into account the low figure of many of the averages which Mr. Wrench has succeeded in inducing his Ottoman colleagues to agree to.

I have, &c.
(Signed) DUFFERIN.

Inclosure in No. 63.

Consul Wrench to the Earl of Dufferin.

My Lord,

Constantinople, July 12, 1884.

I HAVE had the honour to receive your Excellency's despatch of the 30th ultimo, instructing me to prepare a Report showing what has been done up to the date of your Excellency's despatch with regard to the negotiation of a new Commercial Tariff with Turkey, and what remains to be considered. I am desired, further, to state the divisions of the new Tariff that have been examined in detail by the Ottoman Delegates and myself, and the results arrived at, the rate of duty proposed for each description of goods, the classifications adopted, and how far any augmentation of duty agreed to will affect British trade.

In reply, I have the honour to state that the new Tariff being divided into eighteen divisions, containing 100 chapters, I have discussed with my Ottoman colleagues, previous to the end of June, nine divisions composed of sixty-four chapters, and have fixed the average values of the various articles therein mentioned, as well as, subject to the approval of Her Majesty's Government, the duties to be levied on these articles. Three chapters, however, in the series, are not completely terminated, namely, Nos. 12, 13, and 40. The two former refer to tobacco in its different forms. These have been reserved until the Company, which now possesses a monopoly of the tobacco trade in Turkey, has been consulted with regard to the values of Tumbeki cigars and snuff, the importation of which will not be prohibited. Chapter No. 40 relates to rough articles of iron and steel ("Ouvrages grossiers en fer ou acier, ni polis ni vernis"). This chapter, although discussed at two sittings of the Commission, and the average values of the various classes of tools, &c., contained in it, fixed, is waiting for a comprehensive form of classification, proposed by myself to meet the requirements of the Sheffield trade, to be thoroughly examined and approved by my Ottoman colleagues. Beyond the 64th Chapter, a portion of Chapter 85, relating to carpets and feltings, has also been discussed and finished in a manner which, I trust, will suit the trade of Halifax, Heckmondwike, and other English manufacturing towns, as the low classes of carpets and felts are favourably dealt with. Three other Chapters in advance of No. 64 have been dealt with. I have received from my Ottoman colleagues, subjected to the examination of a local Committee of experts, and communicated to your Excellency, certain propositions respecting cotton yarns and tissues contained in Chapters 73, 74, and 75 ("Coton brut et peigné, fils et ouates, tissus, broderies, dentelles, passementerie, bonneterie"). I have also received from your Excellency observations on these propositions made in the interests of Manchester manufacturers.

In advancing these new proposals for classifying the cotton industry, my colleagues have been actuated by a desire to simplify the divisions of the Tariff, and by so doing to diminish the possibility of abuses, discussions, and waste of time which would otherwise occur in passing merchandize through the custom-houses of the Empire. The result of simplifying classifications is not favourable to the British trade in cheap and heavy fabrics, and this is pointed out from Manchester. In every Tariff based upon specific duties it is inevitably the cheap and heavy articles that bear the burden of taxation; the simpler the classifications, the more light and expensive articles are necessarily grouped with the heavier and cheaper, and the higher becomes the average value of the group and the taxation on the lower qualities. These are the disadvantages of the Ottoman proposals. On the other hand, there is an undeniable advantage in simplicity, on the grounds I have already alluded to; and I take it to be my duty to endeavour, as far as possible, to reconcile the views of the Manchester manufacturers with those of my Ottoman colleagues, and to submit the result to your Excellency.

I have mentioned above that I have examined with my colleagues the portion of Chapter 85 which relates to carpets, but I have also received the remaining classifications of woollen goods coming within Chapters 83, 84, and 85. I have not as yet had time to do more than glance over them, with the result of coming to the conclusion that alterations will be required in order to meet the requirements of the Yorkshire industries.

Having now shown the point arrived at in the negotiations, I will proceed to give the headings of the different divisions I have examined, and thus point out the classifications adopted, making such remarks upon each division as appear to me to be called for. It will be well here to observe that, in quoting rates of duty fixed, a

certain latitude must be allowed, for in negotiating I have obtained reductions where it was possible, sometimes in values, sometimes in rates of duty, and not infrequently in both. I will revert to this subject later on in the present Report.

The First Division of the new Tariff consists of but one chapter, and relates to live animals ("Bestiaux et autres animaux vivants"). This trade, upon which an 8 per cent. duty will be levied, does not directly affect British interests.

The Second Division contains twelve chapters, and treats of articles of food and of human consumption, including tobacco ("Articles de consommation"). In these chapters, as elsewhere, raw produce is taxed at 8 per cent., and the manufactured articles at rates varying from 10 to 15 per cent. An exception, however, exists in the treatment of coffee, cocoa, chocolate, tea, and sugar of all sorts, beer, spirits, and wines. The Turkish Government desire to tax these articles, for fiscal reasons, at 20 per cent., and no decision has been as yet come to. British trade is interested in few articles introduced in this division at 8 per cent., but to a greater extent in those coming within the second category. But these latter are chiefly in the form of preserved provisions and other articles of luxury.

The Third Division, which contains but one chapter, is devoted to seeds and plants ("Semences et plantes non pour la consommation humaine"). These are taxed at 8 per cent., but do not affect British trade.

The Fourth Division contains one chapter, manures, &c. ("Engrais et déchets"), which are taxed at 8 per cent., and do not interest English trade.

The Fifth Division consists of one chapter only, and comprises fuel of all sorts ("Combustibles"), taxed at 8 per cent. Coal interests English trade to a large extent, coke in a comparatively small degree. The tax at 8 per cent. on the former has been fixed at p. 84 per 100 kilog., or about 1*s.* 6½*d.* per ton, and on the latter at p. 1·60, or about 3*s.* per ton.

The Sixth Division is composed of fifteen chapters, and comprises chemicals and drugs ("Industrie chimique et drogues"). The first chapter of this series, No. 17, relating to chemical salts, acids, and oxides ("Sels acides et oxydes") has recently been revised by my Ottoman colleagues with a view to simplicity. Having examined this chapter, and communicated the result to your Excellency in March last, I have also now forwarded the new proposals, with a view of ascertaining the wishes of English manufacturers on the changes which are now sought to be introduced, and before finally concluding the negotiations relating to chemicals I await a reply on the points submitted. English trade is interested in the articles comprised in the Sixth Division to a considerable extent, and principally in the following goods: chemicals, salts, &c., tannins, indigo, colours in general, drugs and varnishes, all of which will pay an 8 per cent. duty, and pharmaceutical preparations, soaps and perfumery, which are to be taxed at from 12 to 15 per cent. These articles have engaged my special attention, with the object of obtaining as moderate values and duties as the information in my possession led me to demand. In this Division, again, the Ottoman Government insists on 20 per cent. duty on petroleum; the question does not interest Great Britain, but it has been reserved for future decision. The Delegates also demand 20 per cent. on matches of all kinds, interesting but to a very limited extent, and only in the superior qualities, English trade, in order to induce the Porte to abandon the idea of establishing a monopoly on the manufacture of matches as is the present intention.

The Seventh Division contains four chapters and refers to articles of stone, clay, porcelain, and glass ("Ouvrages en pierres, argile, porcelaine, et verre"). Unworked stone, in which Malta is interested, and cement; mill and lithographic stones coming from England are favourably treated at an 8 per cent. duty on moderate valuations. Jars, articles in stoneware, and common pottery made of dark coloured clay ("Jarres, grès, et poterie de terre commune") are taxed at 12 piastres per 100 kilog., or 1*s.* 1½*d.* per cwt. Dinner services and earthenware ("Articles de terre cuite ou de faïence tels que services de table, poêles et parties de poêles, carreaux de revêtement pour muraille et pour carrelage") are still taxed at what may be considered by the English manufacturers as too high a rate, viz., 30 piastres per 100 kilog., equal to about 2*s.* 0*d.* per cwt. I obtained, I should add, in the case of these articles of one colour, a reduction in the value of from 300 to 240 piastres per 100 kilog., and in the rate of duty of 12 per cent. from the 15 per cent. proposed. In all categories of china and earthenware, and in a considerable proportion of the glasswares the classifications, being made to include articles varying enormously in price, are heavily taxed in the lower qualities. I have obtained such reductions as have been possible, and have, as far as I was able, arranged the categories to suit the views of English manufacturers,

but as England in the chinaware trade exports but a small quantity, the major part coming from France, and in the glass trade has been entirely superseded by Austria, Belgium, and France, the Delegates of these Powers will, when their turn for entering into negotiations arrives, naturally endeavour to bring the duties to a level which will satisfy their commerce.

The Eighth Division of the Tariff, which bears the title of the Metal Industry ("Industrie en Métaux"), contains twenty-three chapters. The five chapters relating to iron and described as comprising (No. 37) raw materials ("Matériaux bruts"), (No. 38) unfinished articles ("Fabricats incomplets") (No. 39) heavy rough articles in wrought or cast iron ("Ouvrages très grossiers en fer ou en fonte"), (No. 40) rough articles in steel and wrought iron ("Ouvrages grossiers en fer ou acier, ni vernis ni polis"), and (No. 41) fine wares ("Articles fins de fer") interest to a large extent British trade.

Chapter 40, which treats principally of workman's tools, is not yet completed, as I have already stated. The categories which interest to the greatest extent British trade are contained in the following sentence: Iron and steel rails, angle iron ⊏ I and T iron, round and four-sided bar iron, nail rods, iron wire ("Rails pour chemin de fer, en fer ou en acier, fer à angles, fer ⊏ I T et semblables; fer en barres, rondes ou carrées, fer en bottes, fil de fer"), and the 8 per cent. duty agreed upon is 7·00 piastres per 100 kilog. representing 14*s.* 0½*d.* per ton. The fine goods in iron and steel vary enormously in price and quality, and were a detailed classification, as was at first proposed, carried into execution, the confusion, loss of time, and other disadvantages that would result, in all probability would far outbalance the injustice done to some goods of cheap and common varieties. The great mass of fine iron and steel goods have therefore been grouped together at a rate of 240 piastres per 100 kilog., or about 22*s.* 2½*d.* per cwt. Such articles as needles of all sorts, pins, steel pens, watch and clock springs, will be introduced at an exceedingly low rate. British trade is interested, but not in so great a degree as that of France and Germany in these articles.

The common metals and their alloys to which are devoted seventeen chapters in this Division are to be subjected to further examination with a view of arriving at simplification in the classifications. The concluding chapter of the Eighth Division is confined to precious metals ("Métaux précieux") which are free of duty.

The Ninth Division, composed of six chapters, is devoted to wood and other materials capable of being cut or carved, basket work, brush work, &c. ("Industrie en bois, en matières à tailler et en treillis"). English trade is not interested to any considerable extent in this Division, and I do not consider that its treatment calls for any special remarks.

My Ottoman colleagues and myself have reached thus far in the examination of the new Tariff, and have in the course of negotiation discussed and fixed values and duties on upwards of 750 articles of trade.

With regard to the rate of duty proposed for each description of goods, I beg leave to state that the Ottoman Commissioners, acting under instructions based upon the Porte's propositions, which were communicated to your Excellency in the month of July 1882, can in no case, with the exception of jewellers' work, accept a lower rate than that of 8 per cent. on raw materials and partly manufactured goods. On all finished articles of commerce, with some few insignificant exceptions, they demand 15 per cent. The instructions received by my colleagues as to the classes to be taxed at 8 per cent. being positive, it rests with me to obtain in negotiation a fair valuation of the average of imports under each classification. These valuations represent the price of articles on the quay of Constantinople; consequently to the price of production in England have to be added railway charges to port of shipment, freight insurance, and commission, or from the price of sale in Turkey have to be deducted custom-house dues, merchants' profits, and the brokerage appertaining to the trade.

When a 15 per cent. duty is insisted on, the negotiations assume a more difficult aspect, especially on low classes of merchandize which in a specific Tariff are perforce bracketed with similar but more costly wares. I endeavour in these cases to follow the instructions I have received from your Excellency as to rates of duty by obtaining low valuations as well as low rates of duty; when I fail in one of these points I perhaps succeed in the other. I sometimes succeed in both, but have often to accept a compromise which will, in my opinion, bring the duty on the mass of goods within the limits assigned by Her Majesty's Government and yet allow my colleagues to quote the duty as a 15 per cent. tax and thereby secure the adhesion of their own Government. In treating this subject there are two points which must be borne in

mind. Firstly, that the Ottoman Government in advocating a new Tariff have in view to increase the custom-house revenues over and above those yielded by the Tariffs of 1861. It is a well-known fact that the taxes paid under those Tariffs, although representing an 8 per cent. duty on the values obtaining at the time the Tariffs were framed, have of late years, owing to cheaper production of almost every description of merchandize, ruled at rates ranging from 8 to 15 and 20 per cent., and sometimes even higher. We are therefore brought face to face with a double difficulty. On the one hand, the Ottoman Commissioners are constantly declaring that the concessions they are asked to make will result, taken as a whole, in a decreased revenue as compared with that received under the old Tariff; and on the other hand commerce, having lost sight for upwards of a year of the old Tariff, is alarmed at what appears in the new scale of duties to be a crushing increase over the 8 per cent. *ad valorem* duty, to which the Porte, somewhat injudiciously in its own interests, has of late accustomed it. A further point is that, although the rate of duty to be charged on low descriptions of goods will, under the new régime, necessarily be high, this increase is not without compensation, for anything which will tend to discourage bribery and corruption in Turkish custom-houses, and a simple classification of merchandize is unquestionably one of these, will be of exceeding great gain to commerce.

With regard to the question as to how far the rates of duty adopted will affect British commerce, it is naturally impossible to speak with any degree of certainty. I venture, however, to offer the following general remarks.

Considering only the question of increased duties, and leaving out of account the probabilities of development or decline in trade consequent on a more prosperous condition, or the reverse, of the Turkish population, we may consider, firstly, to what extent may it be presumed that the increased duties will impede British trade; and secondly, whether English trade is likely to suffer when it will be taxed with the same duties as will be paid by other competing countries on similar merchandize.

Turkey is a country the purchasing powers of which are small in proportion to the number of its inhabitants. It imports principally articles of necessity, and but to a small extent objects of luxury. Those who indulge in the better class of goods will probably not be deterred from continuing their purchases by reason of having to pay a slight increase over present prices; the mass of the population does not, however, come within this category. They consume articles, mostly of cheap manufacture, which of necessity are those which, under a specific Tariff, will bear the burden of taxation; or rather, the burden is borne not by the English producer but by the Turkish consumer of these articles. So long as the consumer cannot obtain the goods he requires from local production he must perforce procure them from abroad; and if taxation or other causes should create a marked advance in price, the consumer that cannot afford to pay that advance will be driven to purchase a cheaper article which, lasting a shorter time, will have to be replaced at more frequent intervals. It has been remarked that a rise in cotton has been followed by no diminished importation, and therefore increased duties would not appear to threaten in Turkey the same direct effect in checking supplies, as might be the case in more civilized countries. It now remains to be seen whether England will be able to maintain her position as regards other importing countries. We may say that England reached the position she now holds under the expired Tariff of 1861. A large proportion of English goods under that Tariff paid 12 and 15 per cent. on many qualities of Manchester goods, and a higher rate still on other articles of less importance. But not only did certain British goods attain a monopoly in Turkey to the exclusion of similar merchandize from other European countries under a high rate of duty, but they reached and maintained this position in spite of the advantage accruing to other Powers when, as was often the case, similar goods arrived from England under a specific duty and from other countries under *ad valorem* taxation. As the new specific Tariff is to be applied to all the countries of Europe and to the United States of America, England will, when it comes into force, compete with its rivals on equal terms, and consequently far more advantageously than formerly.

Here, again, I must revert to the question of abuses, which were fostered by the divergent Tariffs of 1861, and reached their climax under the *ad valorem* system which has been in force for upwards of a year. By the Tariffs of 1861 the value of the majority of goods, and by the system adopted as regards England in May 1883, the value of all goods was assessed in each custom-house of the Empire by valuers, mostly thoroughly corrupt and incompetent. This system, while producing a most demoralizing effect on the officers of the custom-house by encouraging them to place

impediments in the way of merchants until they were bribed to remove them, excited the superior functionaries of the Department to multiply formalities in a vain attempt to check the abuses that took place under their eyes, but which it has been proved they were powerless to detect or prevent. It possessed the further effect of demoralizing the merchants themselves, who, in self defence, were obliged to adopt the same tactics as their unscrupulous competitors.

It will readily be understood that such a system caused vexatious delays, multiplied charges on goods, introduced the element of uncertainty into the taxation, and caused the honest trader—presumably the British—to be undersold by his rivals. The new Tariff, however, will cause a complete revolution. Valuers will no longer be required, the number of functionaries can be diminished, and those that remain can be better paid; simplicity in the classifications will render control easy, and will simplify the formalities for the withdrawal of goods. Although it is too much to expect that bribery will disappear, it is yet certain that importing merchants will be placed on a much more equal footing, and that the charges on similar goods shipped from England or from France will be calculated beforehand with comparative exactitude. While, therefore, as I have already remarked, it is impossible to speak with confidence as to the effect to be produced on the trade of Great Britain by the increased duties, I have said sufficient to show that the question must not be considered solely as one involving heavier charges on British imports, but that other considerations presenting conditions favourable to English trade must be taken into account in order to arrive at a fair appreciation of the probable effect of the new Tariff.

I will now report on what remains to be examined by the Ottoman Commissioners and myself. The unfinished portion of the new Tariff consists of nine Divisions, comprising, to the best of my belief, thirty-six chapters. The Divisions are as follows: No. 10, the paper trade ("Industrie en papier"), containing three chapters; No. 11, the leather and furriers' trade ("Industrie en cuir, pelleterie") of five chapters. On these I am at present engaged. No. 12, the textile industry, and ready-made clothing ("Industrie textile; habits confectionnés"). This is undoubtedly the most important division for British trade, comprising as it does cotton yarns and tissues, yarns and tissues of linen, hemp, jute, and other vegetable fibres, silk, and wool. The Division is composed of sixteen chapters, of which I have as yet only completed a portion of one chapter, relating to carpets. Division No. 13 is devoted to the trade in india-rubber goods, and oil-cloth ("Industrie de caoutchouc et toile cirée"), and comprises three chapters. No. 14 treats of furniture, carriages, boats, &c. ("Meubles, voitures, embarcations"), and contains two chapters. No. 15 includes machines and instruments, musical, scientific, and other ("Machines et instruments"), it is composed of five chapters. No. 16 embraces fine haberdashery and jeweller's work ("Mercerie fine, quincaillerie de luxe"). No. 17, works of literature and art ("Œuvres de la littérature et des arts"), and the 18th and last Division is to be devoted to articles not specially classified elsewhere. The three last Divisions at present consist of one chapter each.

I have, &c.

(Signed) WILLIAM H. WRENCH.

No. 61.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(*Received July* 23, 5 P.M.)

(Commercial.)
(Telegraphic.) *Therapia, July* 23, 1884, 1·45 P.M.

REFERENCE to Sir Joseph Lee's letter of the 5th June.

*Yans,**—Proposed duty being considered as 8 per cent. on average, am I to understand Wrench can agree to proposed class and duty without demanding subdivision into *yans*? Ottoman Commissioners would strongly oppose subdivision. Local importers also against subdivision. See my despatch No. 140, Commercial, on subject.

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* Yarns.

No. 65.

Earl Granville to the Earl of Dufferin.

(Commercial.)
(Telegraphic.)

Foreign Office, July 26, 1884, 2·15 P.M.

YOUR telegram of the 23rd.
Cannot answer by telegram. Despatch by post to-day.

No. 66.

Earl Granville to the Earl of Dufferin.

(No. 102. Commercial.)

Foreign Office, July 26, 1884.

My Lord,

WITH reference to your Excellency's telegram of the 23rd and to my reply of to-day, I have to state to your Lordship that it is understood that Mr. Wrench is in direct communication with Sir Joseph Lee on the subject of the cotton duties, as a whole, in the Turkish Tariff.

The statements as to the proposed duty on yarns generally in your Lordship's telegram, taken together with your despatch No. 146, Commercial, of the 15th instant, which seems to relate to cotton goods only, are not sufficiently definite to enable an instruction to be given in regard to the new duty on yarns.

It is not apparent why a decision on this particular point, apart from the rest of the Tariff for cotton goods and other textile fabrics, is required now. I should be glad to learn the reason for the present application; it might be well that Mr. Wrench should prepare a statement to set forth clearly how this matter stands.

I have further to observe that the further despatch adverted to in the postscript to your Excellency's despatch No. 96, Commercial, of the 17th May last, as to the period for which the present system of customs duties at the rate of 8 per cent. *ad valorem* will continue to be levied, does not appear to have reached this Office.

I am, &c.
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 67.

Sir J. C. Lee to Lord E. Fitzmaurice.—(Received July 29.)

56, Mosley Street, Manchester, July 28, 1884.

My Lord,

I HAVE read the correspondence relative to British yarns, dated Salonica, the 15th May and the 9th June, also Consul Wrench's Report on the same, dated the 12th July.

The letter of Messrs. Casalli and Pantasidi contains no practical suggestions likely to assist the negotiators for a new Turkish Tariff. The fact that Turkish subjects are producing yarns which take the place of British production, is, in my opinion, no subject for the consideration of our Government.

The only question arising out of the correspondence is that British merchants claim that their productions shall enter into Turkish ports without unnecessary delay, and that they be free from all exactions not provided for in the Tariff.

I have now to report upon cotton yarns and the Tariff which it is proposed to be made by the Turkish negotiators. I have little to add to my Report sent to your Lordship on the 5th June; the following will, however, place the subject in a clearer way before you.

Cotton yarns, Nos. 1 to 14, at the proposed tax of 6*s.* 3*d.* per cwt., is equal to 10 per cent. of the value; the importation is 70 per cent. of these numbers. Nos. 14 to 24, of which 20 per cent. may be considered the importation, the duty will be 8 per cent. of the value. Nos. 24's to 36's, the duty will be 7½ per cent. of the value; and Nos. 36 to 50's the duty will be 6¾ per cent. of the value; of these two items 10 per cent. may be considered the importation, the finer numbers are of a retail importation. As to the colours, I confirm my Report of the 5th June, and I have annexed to this letter a Table showing the Tariff agreeable to the suggestions then made.

I am, &c.
(Signed) JOSEPH C. LEE.

Inclosure in No. 67.

OTTOMAN Counter-proposals for Classification of Cotton Yarns.

71. COTON FILÉ ET OUATE.

Dénomination.		Droits.		British Suggestions.
			Per cent.	
		Piastres or.	*s. d.*	*s. d.*
Fil de coton simple—				
(*a.*) Ecru	100 kilogr. ..	68	5 3·5	6 3
(*b.*) Blanchi	" "	76	7 0·4	6 7
(*c.*) Rouge	" "	105	9 8·0	8 4
(*d.*) Bleu	" "	92	8 6·2	7 4½
(*e.*) Autres couleurs	" "	88	8 1·7	
Fil de coton retors—				
(*a.*) Ecru	" "	80	7 4·8	7 0
(*b.*) Blanchi	" "	92	8 6·2	7 9½
(*c.*) Rouge	" "	120	11 1·3	9 4
(*d.*) Bleu	" "	108	9 11·9	8 3
(*e.*) Autres couleurs	" "	102	9 5·3	
Fils de coton simple ou retors accommodés pour le commerce de détail &c.—				
(*a.*) Sur bobines en bois, bobines comprises	" "	128	11 10·1	8 per cent. *ad valorem*;
(*b.*) Autres	" "	200	18 6·1	
Vigogne, mélange coton et laine, coton dominant en poids	" "	120	11 1·3	
Ouate	" "	52	4 9·7	

(Signed) JOSEPH C. LEE.

Manchester, July 28, 1884.

No. 68.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(Received July 30.)

(No. 157. Commercial. Confidential.)

Therapia, July 24, 1884.

My Lord,

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith to your Lordship a copy of a note which has been addressed to Assim Pasha by his Excellency the Marquis de Noailles on the subject of the Franco-Turkish commercial negotiations.

As the copy of the inclosed note was given to me in a strictly confidential manner, I trust your Lordship will comply with the request that it should not be published.

I have, &c.
(Signed) DUFFERIN.

Inclosure in No. 68.

M. de Noailles to Assim Pasha.

Le 27 Juin, 1884.

M. le Ministre,

J'AI porté à la connaissance de mon Gouvernement la réponse que votre Excellence a bien voulu m'adresser sous la date du 18 Juin à la lettre que j'avais eu l'honneur de lui écrire le 15 Février et par laquelle elle me fait savoir qu'après avoir pris l'avis des Départements compétents, la Sublime Porte, malgré son sincère désir d'être agréable au Gouvernement de la République, se voit, à son vif regret, dans l'impossibilité d'acquiescer à la demande que j'avais été chargé de lui faire de laisser aux négociants Français la faculté d'opter entre les droits portés dans le Tarif établi entre la France et la Turquie et la taxation *ad valorem* pour les marchandises qu'ils importent dans l'Empire Ottoman.

Sans entrer dans le fond de la question et mû par le désir de donner au Gouvernement de Sa Majesté le Sultan une nouvelle preuve de son bon vouloir et de son esprit amical, mon Gouvernement m'a autorisé à ne pas insister sur la demande

contenue dans ma lettre du 15 Février. Mais il m'a donné l'ordre de réclamer de votre Excellence l'application aux marchandises et produits Français, introduits sur le territoire de l'Empire Ottoman, des droits de 8 pour cent à la valeur, moins 10, jusqu'à la conclusion d'un nouvel accord et pour le temps que dureront les négociations actuellement ouvertes en vertu de l'Article XVII du Traité de Commerce conclu en 1861 entre la France et la Turquie.

Par suite d'arrangements intervenus entre la Sublime Porte et les autres Puissances, le commerce Français se trouve dans une situation d'inégalité qui ne saurait se prolonger plus longtemps.

Me référant d'ailleurs à la lettre que j'ai eu l'honneur d'adresser le 21 Février, 1883, au prédécesseur de votre Excellence et à la réponse que m'a faite son Altesse Aariti Pacha, le 9 Mars de la même année, j'ose prier votre Excellence de vouloir bien donner à cette question, à laquelle mon Gouvernement attache la plus haute importance, une solution aussi prompte que possible.

Veuillez, &c.

No. 69.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(*Received July* 30.)

(No. 158. Commercial.) *Therapia, July* 24, 1884.

My Lord,

WITH reference to my despatch No. 138, Commercial, of the 10th instant, I have the honour to state to your Lordship that I have been informed that the Sublime Porte has received a communication from the Ottoman Ambassador at Vienna to the effect that Count Kálnoky has approved the action taken by Baron Calice with regard to the question of the Austro-Turkish Commercial Treaty, and has declared that, until the Sublime Porte agrees to the setting aside of the Tariff, and consequently to the system of 8 per cent. *ad valorem* duties, he will not allow the Austrian Delegate to enter into negotiations with the Turkish Delegates for the drawing up of a new Commercial Tariff.

Count Kálnoky has likewise instructed all Austrian merchants trading with Turkey to pay the customs dues under protest, reserving to themselves thereby the right hereafter to claim a restitution of the overcharges.

I have, &c.
(Signed) DUFFERIN.

No. 70.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(*Received July* 30.)

(No. 159. Commercial.) *Therapia, July* 25, 1884.

My Lord,

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship herewith a copy of a despatch which I have received from Mr. Wrench, inclosing copies of the *procès-verbaux* of the 20th, 21st, and 22nd meetings of the Commission for the negotiation of a new Commercial Tariff.

I have, &c.
(Signed) DUFFERIN.

Inclosure 1 in No. 70.

Consul Wrench to the Earl of Dufferin.

Constantinople, July 24, 1884.

My Lord,

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith copies of the 20th, 21st, and 22nd *procès-verbaux* of the Commission for the negotiation of a new Commercial Tariff.

The 22nd meeting should have taken place on the 24th June, and in default on the 1st July, but in consequence of my indisposition the sitting was postponed until the 8th July.

At the 20th sitting of the Commission the 59th, 60th, and 61st Chapters of the new Tariff were discussed. These chapters relate respectively to wood in the rough ("Bois brut"), materials capable of being cut or carved ("Matières à tailler"), and the raw material for wicker and basket work ("Treillis bruts"), on all of which the duty to be charged represents 8 per cent. on values which have been fixed with care.

At the 21st meeting of the Commission, Chapters 62, 63, and 64 were examined. In the first of these chapters, relating to articles in wood and in materials capable of being cut or carved ("Ouvrages en bois et matières à tailler") the following articles are to pay 8 per cent.: veneer ("Bois en feuilles pour placage") and cork cut in slabs or sheets ("Liège coupé en planches ou en feuilles"). Common articles of wood for coopers, turners, carpenters, wheelwrights, and other similar workmen, simply planed or cut ("Ouvrages communs en bois de tonnelier, tourneur, menuisier, charron, et d'autres métiers analogues, simplement rabotés ou taillés—(*a.*) Non teints"), will pay 10 per cent., but when such articles are coloured, stained, varnished, or polished, or when in the form of beadings or common "gilt" picture frames ("(*b.*) Teints, passés au mordant, vernis, polis; baguettes et cadres en bois bronzé"), 12 per cent. will be charged. 10 per cent. will also be levied on articles in cork, such as bottle corks and cork soles ("Ouvrages en liège tels que bouchons, semelles"), whalebone in pieces ("Fanons de baleine fendus"), and pieces of horn and bone cut or sawn into tablets ("Plaques et feuilles de corne ou d'os simplement coupés ou sciés"). The remaining articles in this chapter have been assessed at the rate of 15 per cent. on the estimated values.

For the whole of the articles enumerated in Chapter 63, basket work and brush and seive makers' goods ("Vannerie, brosserie et tamiserie"), the duties represent 12 per cent. on the values discussed and fixed.

In Chapter 64, 10 per cent. is charged on straw plaits, &c. ("Bandes de paille pour la fabrication de chapeaux, et autres, et bandes de sparterie"), and 12 per cent. on "sparterie." Mats and other articles of straw, rushes, and similar materials, excepting hats ("Nattes et tapis de pied et tous autres articles de paille, de roseaux, de varech, de jonc, et de matières semblables, même soutenus par des ficelles, à l'exception des chapeaux portés au groupe No. 87"), are assessed at 15 per cent. on average values.

At the twenty-second meeting of the Commission, Chapters 65, 66, 67, and one Article of 68 were discussed. Chapter 65 contains rags ("Chiffons"), the tax on which is at the rate of 8 per cent.

In Chapter 66, paper and card- and pasteboard ("Papier et cartons"), the duties represent from 8 to 15 per cent. on the various classes, with the exception of cigarette paper ("Papier à cigarette en feuilles"), upon which, for fiscal reasons, the Porte's Delegates demand 20 per cent. Under the 8 per cent. duty come blotting and packing paper of all sorts ("Papier buvard, papier à filtrer, et papier d'emballage de toute espèce"), slate paper ("Papier imitant l'ardoise"), chemically prepared papers ("Papier mort-aux-mouches et papiers médicamentés"), common printing paper ("Papier à imprimer non collé), writing and letter paper, ruled or plain ("Papier à écrire et papier à lettres réglés ou non réglés"), drawing paper, paper and cardboard for visiting cards, &c., and music paper ("Papier à dessiner, Bristol, ivoire, papier glacé, et autres pour cartes de visite, pour étiquettes, &c., papier de musique rayé"), roofing felt ("Carton pour toitures"), leather paper ("Cartons brillants dits de cuir"), and other kinds of card- and pasteboard ("Autres cartons"). Ten per cent. is to be charged on parchment paper ("Papier parcheminé"). The tax on sand and emery paper comes, in my opinion, to about 11 per cent. My Ottoman colleagues had intended to tax emery, glass, and sand paper ("Papier d'émeri et autres papiers à polir et à gratter") at 48 piastres, that being 8 per cent. on 600 piastres, and emery cloth (in Chapter 75) at 60 piastres, or 8 per cent. on 750 piastres; but considering it would be more advantageous to class the two varieties under one tax in order to prevent unpacking and sorting, I consented to the tax of 48 piastres, in view of fixing the same tax as an 8 per cent. duty on a valuation of 600 piastres for emery cloth. Twelve per cent. will be levied on the ornamental and coloured papers, used principally in bookbinding ("Papier doré, argenté, moiré, maroquiné, canevas, autres papiers teints ou coloriés"). The remaining articles in this chapter will be taxed at 15 per cent. Whereas Italy, Germany, and France introduce the commoner descriptions of paper into Turkey, and England only to a small extent the best qualities, British goods will be introduced at low duties under the new Tariff.

Chapter 67 includes articles made of paper and cardboard ("Articles en papier et en carton"). These are taxed at 12 per cent., with three exceptions, viz., cigarette papers in books and playing cards ("Papier à cigarettes en petits cahiers, cartes à

jouer"), upon which a 20 per cent. duty is demanded, and fancy articles ("Tous ouvrages en papier, en carton, en papier mâché," &c.), upon which 15 per cent. is to be levied.

The first article of Chapter 68 is for hides, wet or salted ("Peaux brutes, fraîches, séchées, ou salées, avec poils ou dépouillées de leurs poils, à l'exception des articles des groupes 69 et 71").

N.B.—Chapter 69 refers to leather and 71 to furs.

These hides are to pay an 8 per cent. duty on a very low valuation in comparison with the prices given to me in England.

I have, &c.
(Signed) WILLIAM H. WRENCH.

Inclosure 2 in No. 70.

Procès-verbal No. 20.—*Séance du* 29 *Mai* (10 *Juin*), 1884.

LES Délégués des Gouvernements d'Angleterre et de Turquie se sont réunis aujourd'hui 29 Mai (10 Juin), 1884.

Les Délégués Ottomans sont assistés par Püschel Effendi, Chef des Commissions d'Évaluations.

Le procès-verbal de la séance précédente est lu et approuvé.

Les Délégués examinent les Nos. 59, 60, et 61 du Projet de Tarif et tombent d'accord sur les résultats fixés dans l'Annexe.

(Signé) WILLIAM H. WRENCH.
MICHAËL PORTUGAL.

Pour copie conforme:
Le Secrétaire,
(Signé) J. P. Vazzidis.

Annexe au Procès-verbal No. 20.

59. Bois Brut.

Dénomination des Marchandises.			Droit, piastres or.
			Prs. c.
Bois d'ébénisterie et bois dur de construction ou pour des ouvrages de métiers, brut, travaillé à la hache, scié ou raboté, en blocs, en planches, en lattes, ou en feuilles ayant une épaisseur de plus de 2½ millim.—			
(*a.*) Bois de buis	100 kilog.	..	6 00
(*b.*) Bois d'ébène	„	..	10 00
(*c.*) Bois d'acajou	„	..	16 00
(*d.*) Bois de noyer	„	..	4 00
(*e.*) Bois de palissandre	„	..	18 00
(*f.*) Bois de chêne, de châtaignier, de platane, et autres	„	..	2 40
Bois blanc de construction ou pour des ouvrages de métiers sans tenir compte des intervalles entre les pièces empilées pour le mesurage—			
(*a.*) Scié, raboté, en blocs (Galatz), en planches, en lattes, en feuilles	Le mètre cubé ..		18 00
(*b.*) Mâts, vergues, perches, &c., bruts ou simplement travaillés à la hache	„	..	10 00
Merrains (douves) en bois dur ou blanc, sciés, découpés, ou rabotés	100 kilog.	..	4 00

60. Matières à Tailler.

Fanons de baleine, bruts	100 kilog.	..	240 00
Cornes et pointes de corne	„	..	20 00
Ivoire	„	..	600 00
Dents de morse et d'autres animaux	„	..	240 00
Coquilles de nacre et autres, brutes	„	..	80 00
Noix de palmes, de coco, de corozo, et autres noix à tailler	„	..	16 00
Ambre, brut	„	..	2,400 00
Jais, brut	„	..	240 00
Plume Turque (Kalem)	„	..	48 00
Plumes d'oie à écrire	„	..	160 00
Liége, brut	„	..	32 00
Écaille de tortue	„	..	600 00
Autres matières à tailler	„	..	40 00

61. Treillis Bruts.

Dénomination des Marchandises.			Droits, piastres or.
			Prs. c.
Roseaux et joncs même fendus et pailles préparées pour la fabrication de sièges, non teints	100 kilog.	..	16 00
Roseaux, joncs, pailles et autres matières pour treillis, blanchis, vernis ou teints, ainsi que rotins fendus pour la fabrication de sièges, de corbeilles, &c. ..	„	..	40 00
Tilles, osiers, écorces et lattes pour paniers et autres matières brutes pour treillis non-dénommées ci-dessus	„	..	8 00

(Signé) WILLIAM H. WRENCH.
MICHAËL PORTUGAL.

Pour copie conforme:
Le Secrétaire,
(Signé) J. P. Vazzidis.

Inclosure 3 in No. 70.

Procès-verbal No. 21.—*Séance du* 5 (17) *Juin*, 1884.

LES Délégués des Gouvernements de Turquie et d'Angleterre se sont réunis aujourd'hui, le 5 (17) Juin, 1884.

Les Délégués Ottomans sont assistés par Püschel Effendi, Chef des Commissions d'Évaluations.

Le procès-verbal de la séance précédente est lu et approuvé.

Les Délégués examinent les Nos. 62, 63, et 64 du Projet de Tarif et tombent d'accord sur les résultats fixés dans l'Annexe.

(Signé) WILLIAM H. WRENCH.
MICHAËL PORTUGAL.

Pour copie conforme:
Le Secrétaire,
(Signé) J. P. Vazzidis.

Annexe au Procès-verbal No. 21.

62. Ouvrages en Bois et matières à Tailler.

Dénomination des Marchandises.			Droit, piastres or.
			Prs. c.
Ouvrages communs en bois de tonnelier, tourneur, menuisier, charron, et d'autres métiers analogues, simplement rabotés ou taillés—			
(*a.*) Non teints	100 kilog	..	25 00
(*b.*) Teints, passés au mordant, vernis, polis; baguettes et cadres en bois bronzé ..	„	..	66 00
Bois en feuilles pour placage de 2½ millim. ou au-dessous	„	..	44 00
Ouvrages en bois fins, c'est-à-dire, finement peints, bronzés, en marqueterie, avec sculptures ou combinés avec d'autres matières non comprises au groupe No. 98 ..	„	..	150 00
Liége coupé en planches ou en feuilles	„	..	36 00
Ouvrages en liége, tels que bouchons, semelles ..	„	..	120 00
Fanons de baleine fendus	„	..	700 00
Plaques et feuilles de corne ou d'os simplement coupés ou sciés	„	..	60 00
Peignes de corne et autres articles en matières à tailler à l'exception de l'ivoire, de l'écaille, du nacre, et de l'ambre mentionnés au groupe No. 98	„	..	225 00

63. Vannerie, Brosserie, et Tamiserie.

Dénomination des Marchandises.		Droit, piastres or. Prs. c.
Vannerie en osier—		
(*a.*) Commune, non teinte, non passé au mordant, non vernie, telle que: bannes de voitures, nasses, hottes, paniers à linge, corbeilles de voyage ordinaires, &c.	100 kilog. ..	30 00
(*b.*) Commune, teinte, passée au mordant, vernie, même combinée avec des métaux communs, de toile cirée, de cuir tanné, rougi ou simplement noirci	" ..	48 00
Vannerie fine et toute vannerie combinée avec d'autres matières communes non-dénommées à l'article précédent	" ..	144 00
Brosserie—		
(*a.*) Ordinaire combinée avec du fer ou du bois, sans polissure, sans vernis, telle que: balais ordinaires, balais en ramille, balais en paille de riz, et autres matières semblables	" ..	48 00
(*b.*) Brosses et pinceaux ordinaires en soie de porc ..	" ..	168 00
(*c.*) Toute autre brosserie (balais fins, brosses fines, pinceaux fins, &c.), vernie, polie ou combinée avec d'autres matières communes non comprises au groupe No. 98	" ..	300 00
Ouvrages de tamisier—		
(*a.*) Ordinaires ni polis ni vernis, même en combinaison avec du fer ou du bois mais ni polis ni vernis*	" ..	72 00
(*b.*) Fins, polis ou vernis, ainsi que ceux combinés avec d'autres matières	" ..	144 00

64. Ouvrages en Paille, Sparte, &c.

Bandes de paille pour la fabrication de chapeaux et autres bandes de sparterie	100 kilog. ..	360 00
Sparterie	" ..	720 00
Nattes et tapis de pied et tous autres articles de paille, de roseaux, de varech, de jone, et de matières semblables même soutenus par des ficelles, à l'exception des chapeaux portés au groupe No. 98†	" ..	100 00

(Signé) WILLIAM H. WRENCH.
MICHAËL PORTUGAL.

Pour copie conforme:
Le Secrétaire,
(Signé) A. P. Vazzidis.

Inclosure 4 in No. 70.

Procès-verbal No. 22.—Séance du 26 Juin (8 Juillet), 1884.

LES Délégués des Gouvernements d'Angleterre et de Turquie se sont réunis aujourd'hui, le 26 Juin (8 Juillet), 1884.

E. Bertram Effendi est absent en vertu d'un congé.

Le Délégué Ottoman est assisté par Pâschal Effendi, Chef des Commissions d'Évaluations.

Le procès-verbal de la séance précédente est lu et approuvé.

Les Délégués examinent les Nos. 65, 66, 67, et 68 du Projet de Tarif.

Le Délégué Ottoman considère les articles "papier à cigarettes en feuilles" (groupe No. 66), et "papier à cigarettes en petits cahiers" (groupe No. 67), comme articles fiscaux, et demande un taux de 20 pour cent. Le Délégué Anglais déclare que d'après ses instructions il ne peut pour le moment accepter que 15 pour cent, mais promet de demander de nouvelles instructions à son Gouvernement.

Pour les "cartes à jouer" (groupe No. 67), le Délégué Ottoman demande un droit spécifique de 460 piastres par 100 kilog. en attendant l'établissement du

* Effacés cinq mots: "mais ni polis ni vernis."

† Remplacé le chiffre "98" par le chiffre "87."

monopole proposé par la Sublime Porte. Mr. Wrench réserve cette question pour qu'elle soit résolue plus tard avec celle des allumettes.

En raison des ces différences, les Délégués arrêtent pour les deux premiers articles seulement la valeur moyenne et en font une Annexe separée sous la rubrique (B), l'Annexe (A) contenant les articles sur lesquels les Délégués se sont mis d'accord.

(Signé) WILLIAM H. WRENCH.
MICHAËL PORTUGAL.

Pour copie conforme:
(Signé) S. Chlerff.

Annexe (A) au Procès-verbal No. 22.

65. Chiffons.

Dénomination des Marchandises.		Droit, piastres or. Prs. c.
Chiffons; rognures et maculatures de papier	100 kilog. ..	5 00
Demi-pâte de papier, en bloc ou en masse	" ..	10 00

66. Papier et Carton.

Papier buvard, papier à filtrer, et papier d'emballage de toute espèce	100 kilog. ..	16 00
Papier imitant l'ardoise	" ..	72 00
Papier d'émeri et autres papiers à polir et à gratter ..	" ..	48 00
Papier mort-aux-mouches et autres papiers médicamentés	" ..	80 00
Papier à imprimer non collé	" ..	22 00
Papier à écrire et papier à lettres, réglés ou non réglés ..	" ..	36 00
Papier à dessiner, Bristol, ivoire, papier glacé, et autres pour cartes de visite, pour étiquettes, &c., papier de musique rayé	" ..	56 00
Papier lithographié ou imprimé pour registres; papiers formulaires pour comptes étiquettes, devises, lettres de voiture, connaissements, &c.	" ..	120 00
Tentures (papiers teints)	" ..	90 00
Papier doré, argenté, moiré, maroquiné, cannevas ..	" ..	108 00
Autres papiers teints ou coloriés	" ..	66 00
Papier parcheminé	" ..	88 00
Carton pour toiture	" ..	12 00
Cartons brillants dits de cuir	" ..	26 00
Autres cartons	" ..	16 00

67. Articles en Papier et en Carton.

Enveloppes et cahiers	100 kilog. ..	66 00
Livres de comptoir et pour copies de lettres	" ..	108 00
Tuyaux et tubes en carton asphalté	" ..	48 00
Tous ouvrages en papier, en carton, en papier mâché, en carton-pierre, ou autres cartons semblables même combinés avec d'autres matières non comprises au groupe No. 98, tels que: faux-cols et manchettes même doublés de tissus, albums et autres ouvrages de reliure non compris aux groupes Nos. 70 et 99, ornements, cadres, masques et têtes de poupées ..	" ..	180 00

68. Peaux brutes.

Peaux brutes fraîches, séchées ou salées, avec poils ou dépouillées de leurs poils à l'exception des articles compris aux groupes Nos. 69 et 71	100 kilog. ..	40 00

(Signé) WILLIAM H. WRENCH.
MICHAËL PORTUGAL.

Pour copie conforme:
(Signé) S. Chlerff.

Annexe (B) au Procès-verbal No. 22.

56. PAPIER ET CARTON (*suite*).

Dénomination des Marchandises.	Unité.	Valeurs moyennes en Piastres or.	Taxe demandée par les Délégués Ottomans.	Taxe acceptée par les Délégués Anglais.
		Prs. c.	Prs. c.	Prs. c.
Papier à cigarettes en feuilles	100 kilog. ..	800 00	160 00	120 00
67. ARTICLES EN PAPIER ET EN CARTON.				
Papier à cigarettes en petits cahiers ..	100 kilog. ..	1,000 00	200 00	150 00
Cartes à jouer	" ..	..	160 00	Réservé.

(Signé) WILLIAM H. WRENCH.
MICHAËL PORTUGAL.

Pour copie conforme :
(Signé) S. CHLENFF.

No. 71.

Sir J. Lee to Lord E. Fitzmaurice.—(*Received August 1.*)

56, *Mosley Street, Manchester, July* 31, 1884.

My Lord,

I HAVE now the honour to report upon the correspondence relating to the negotiations for a new Turkish Tariff for cotton fabrics.

In order to place the question before your Lordship in a clear and comprehensive way, it is necessary for me to refer to the despatch from Consul Wrench dated the 12th July. It will be seen that the Ottoman Commissioners have decided upon a specific duty on raw and partly-manufactured goods equal to 8 per cent. of the value; and on manufactured goods of 15 per cent. of the value. So far the basis for a Tariff is perfectly clear; the valuations upon which a specific duty should be based is the point in dispute. I contend that values should be taken as at the place of production, as a charge for packing and freight is really a burden upon the goods not provided for in the cost of manufacture.

Moreover, an equable charge cannot be made, as goods arriving from Austria, Italy, and France are at a less cost in freight and charges than those from Liverpool or New York. Hence, to take valuations at port of entry is an extra burden on English goods.

Considering the effect on British commerce of increased duties, it is assumed that a rise in the value of cotton goods has been followed by no diminution of the importations; therefore an advance in the duties will not prejudice the trade to an appreciable extent. I think that this apology for increased duties cannot be accepted. Experience has taught us that when goods are burdened with duties legitimate trade declines in consequence.

The Ottoman dominions have an extended coast-line; custom-houses are few and inefficient; and there are few, if any, bonded warehouses. Hence smuggling is easy and profitable; consequently the higher the duties the more contraband becomes the trade; the mere simplification of a Tariff will not prevent smuggling. It is notorious that in the Greek Island of Syra a depôt is provided for bonding goods. Steamers calling at the port a few years ago landed few packages; now 1,000 bales are landed by a single steamer. Of course it is not contended that these goods are for Greek consumption. Therefore, if it will pay merchants to risk their capital in order to save the present duties, what will be the state of things when a higher Tariff has to be paid?

Moreover, the Bulgarian Tariff being only 8 per cent. *ad valorem*, and the carriage for German and Austrian goods into Bulgaria, by the Danube, being less in freight and charges than the same from England, the inevitable consequence will be that German and Austrian goods thus imported into Bulgaria, and smuggled over the Roumelian frontier into Turkey, will entirely draw away English goods from this

most important province, which forms an integral part of the Ottoman Empire, and will have to come under the new Tariff.

British merchants fear no competitors; they can compete with any nation on equal terms. They do not engage in contraband trade, as is evidenced by a Report on under-valuations made by the American Secretary of Treasury, which sets forth that British merchants, as a rule, are honest; they do not make false declarations, or engage in nefarious trade.

The Ottoman Government should give its serious attention to the prevention of smuggling, and so encourage the legitimate merchants.

The Tariff for cotton fabrics which I now submit to your Lordship is based on the proposals of the Ottoman Commissioners, namely, 8 per cent. of the value on yarns, tangibs, and mulls; and 15 per cent. of the value on other fabrics—the valuations at the place of production. I think this scheme would be acceptable to British merchants.

The Tariff proposed is an alternative one; it will have the effect of equalizing the duties between the cheaper and finer goods, and so counteract the advantage that fine goods have over the cheaper sorts, caused by placing all qualities of a kind in one category, so as to simplify the Tariff.

I am, &c.
(Signed) JOSEPH C. LEE.

Inclosure in No. 71.

PLAN of a new Tariff for Goods entering Ottoman Ports.

Denomination of Goods.	Ottoman Counter-Proposals.	Equivalent in Shillings and Pence.	British Suggestions.
	Les 100 kilog.	Per cwt.	
	Piastres.	s. d.	s. d.
1. Tous les tissus à l'exception du velours façon soie—			
(*a*.) Écrus, tels que—			
T-cloths, waste cloths, grey twills, grey drills, grey shirtings, grey cambrics, grey long-cloths, et autres tissus semblables, à l'exception de tulle et tulle dit Anglais	135	12 5·95	10 6
(*b*.) Blanchis—			
(1.) Gaze, tulle, mull, jaconets, Victoria lawn, et semblables tissus transparents, ainsi que les mêmes tissus transparents écrus ..	375	34 8·52	25 3
(2.) Tous les autres blanchis, tels que: tissus dénommés au section (*a*), ainsi que les madapolams, shirtings, piqués, linge de table, mouchoirs ourlés ou non ourlés; futaine, &c.	210	19 5·25	13 9
(3.) Savaspoor (tangibs), mérner, mull No. 1 (called "schapali"), all being under 20 threads square in ¼ inch English ..	..	..	8 3
(*c*.) Teints ou imprimés—			
(1.) Gaze, tulle, mull, et semblables tissus transparents, comme: turlatan, organdis, &c.	570	52 0·12	30 9
(2.) Tous les autres tissus lissés ou façonnés, comme: mousseline, jaconats, kalemkiar, étoffes pour doublures, drap mil, calicot, crétonne, piqués, damassés, tissus à raies, à fleurs, &c.	315	29 1·86	21 6
(*d*.) Étoffes tissées de fils, teints ou imprimés ..	270	24 11·80	19 0
2. Velours façon soie	600	55 6·41	No change
3. Broderies, &c.	1,050	97 2·20	Ditto

With the exception of category (*b*) 3, and yarns, which are calculated 8 per cent. *ad valorem*, all other categories are based on 15 per cent. *ad valorem*.

The Tariff is alternative, the Custom-house having the right to determine whether to take the duty by weight, or an *ad valorem* duty of 15 per cent., the minimum Tariff being 8 per cent. on yarn and tangibs, and 15 per cent. on other goods; that is, when the duty by weight does not amount to 8 or 15 per cent., as the case may be, of the

value, the Custom-house has the option of charging the *ad valorem* duty. This plan would be easy of administration, and would, moreover, give the superior officer control over the Customs; as invoices bearing the signature of the consignors, and dated from the place of production, would have to be deposited with each shipment. The invoices would also have to state the weight of each bale, and a description according to the Tariff.

Fraud or under-valuation would have to be punishable by fine of 20 per cent. on the value of the goods.

The value, in case of dispute, could easily be determined by an appeal to the Chamber of Commerce of the district whence the goods have been shipped. The superior officer aforesaid would also be in a postion to calculate the amount of revenue which would accrue to the Custom-house, as no goods enter at less than the *ad valorem* duties which have been named; a simple calculation would be a check against fraud. Moreover, it is impossible to frame a specific Tariff so simple as the one desired by the Ottoman Commissioners without allowing certain manufactures, which can better afford to bear a burden of duty, from escaping, by reason of the Tariff being formed on the valuation of the cheaper sorts.

No. 1 (*a*.) "Ecrus." This category is based on an average of 7½*d*. per lb., which will give 15 per cent. duty, the goods shipped being 6½*d*. to 8¾*d*. per lb.; 75 per cent. of this class are shipped.

The finer goods, if they do not reach the 15 per cent., being the minimum of the Tariff, will have to pay according to value.

(*b*.) "Blanchis."

No. 1. "Savaspoor" is taken out of this class and put in No. 3. The average of this class is 1*s*. 6*d*. per lb.

No. 2. The average for this class is 9⅝*d*. per lb.; the cheaper being 8½*d*. (of which 70 per cent. are shipped), and the better 10⅝*d*. per lb.

No. 3 is a new class, intended to comprise "tangibs," &c. All under 20 threads in the square ¼-inch English; the average being 11*d*. per lb.

(*c*.) No. 1. "Teints," &c. I take out "mousseline" and "jaconats," "kalemkiar," and take the value at 1*s*. 10*d*. per lb.

No. 2. I insert "mousseline" and "jaconats," and "kalemkiar," and take the average value at 1*s*. 4*d*. per lb. The bulk of the goods shipped of this class are from 1*s*. 1½*d*. to 1*s*. 3½*d*. per lb.

(*d*.) "Étoffes tissées de fils, teints ou imprimés." I take the value here at 1*s*. 1½*d*. per lb. They are mostly shipped from 11½*d*. to 1*s*. 2*d*. per lb.

No. 2. "Velours." I make no change.

No. 3. "Broderies." I make no change, but on the understanding that Scotch lappets, lappet shawls, and goods figured by the shuttle in the loom belong to class (*b*) 2; and, if coloured yarns are used, then to class (*d*).

(Signed) JOSEPH C. LEE.

No. 72.

Earl Granville to the Earl of Dufferin.

(No. 111. Commercial.) *Foreign Office, August 5, 1884.*

My Lord,

WITH reference to my despatch No. 102, Commercial, of the 26th ultimo, I transmit to your Excellency herewith, for communication to Mr. Consul Wrench, copies of further letters from Sir Joseph Lee containing suggestions, to meet the representations last received from Mr. Wrench, with respect to duties in the new Turkish Tariff on cotton yarns and textile fabrics.[a]

The cotton trade is the most important branch of British commerce with Turkey. In order, therefore, that the commercial negotiations now pending should be successful, it is necessary that a satisfactory arrangement shall be come to with respect to the duties on cotton.

I have to request that your Excellency will ask Mr. Wrench to give his best attention to this part of the subject, and to discuss again with the Ottoman Delegates the Tariff for cotton goods on the bases now suggested by Sir Joseph Lee.

I am, &c.

(Signed) GRANVILLE.

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[a] Nos. 67 and 71.

No. 73.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(Received August 13.)

(No. 176. Commercial.)

My Lord, *Therapia, August 9, 1884.*

IN obedience to the instructions contained in your Lordship's despatch No. 97, Commercial, of the 19th ultimo, I have the honour to transmit herewith to your Lordship copy of a despatch addressed to me by Mr. Wrench containing a statement as to the exact points in connection with duties on chemicals on which he wishes to obtain Mr. Muspratt's opinion.

I have, &c.

(For the Earl of Dufferin),

(Signed) HUGH WYNDHAM.

Inclosure 1 in No. 73.

Mr. Wrench to the Earl of Dufferin.

My Lord, *Constantinople, August 8, 1884.*

IN compliance with the directions contained in your Excellency's despatch of the 29th ultimo, I have the honour to furnish the following statement as to the points upon which the opinion of Mr. Muspratt might, I consider, be desirable in connection with the duties to be levied on chemicals in the new Turkish Tariff.

The first of the two Tables herein transmitted represents the arrangement of chemical salts, acids, and oxides as it was presented to me by my Ottoman colleagues and discussed in the months of February and March last; the second gives what my colleagues now propose as a substitute for the first Table. The second Table has been put forward on the following grounds:—

1. That, containing fewer denominations, it is less likely to give rise to disputes between importers and the officers of the different custom-houses of the Empire, all more or less ignorant of chemicals, as to the nature of the imported article.

2. That several chemicals, which in the first Table appear as separate items, are imported to so small an extent as to render distinct classification unnecessary, and are consequently now included under a general denomination.

3. That the duties as rearranged do not surpass 8 per cent. on the average values of the bulk of importation.

It is difficult to obtain at Constantinople accurate information bearing on the second and third of the above-quoted arguments, especially as regards the chemicals which mostly interest English trade, and are employed in the manufacture of soap, &c., considering that these are imported at outports of the Empire. It appeared therefore to me that it would be advisable to submit the inclosures to the present communication for the opinion of an English expert and exporter, with such a question as might be epitomized in the following sentence: will the classifications and the duties appearing in the second inclosure to this despatch suit British trade; if not, in what particulars should alterations be suggested, taking, as far as possible, Inclosure 1 as a model for such alterations?

In explanation of the Tables inclosed, I may add that a piastre equals 4583*d*. or piastres 5·5 equal 1*s*.; that 100 kilog. are equal to 220 lbs. avoirdupois; and that the duties mentioned are intended to represent 8 per cent. on the average values of the goods on the wharf of Constantinople, that is to say, that the manufacturer's prices must be augmented by the amount for railway charges, freight, commission, insurance, and landing expenses.

I have, &c.

(Signed) WILLIAM H. WRENCH.

Inclosure 1.

17. Salts, Acids, et Oxydes.

Dénomination des Marchandises.	Unité.	Droit, piastres or.
		Prs. c.
Soude (carbonate de soude) raffinée, brute, ou cristallisée	100 kilog.	6 00
Soude calcinée et potasse (carbonate de potasse)	"	7 00
Soude et potasse caustiques en état liquide ou solide	"	10 00
Bicarbonate de soude	"	12 00
Silicate de potasse ou de soude liquide	"	12 00
Salpêtre (nitrate de potasse)		Prohibé
Sel de cuisine (gemme et marin)		Prohibé
Chlorure de chaux et de potassium; autres sels de blanchiment	100 kilog.	6 50
Alums—		
(*a.*) Bruts	"	6 00
(*b.*) Raffinés et calcinés	"	24 00
Sulfate de soude et de magnésie	"	5 00
Sulfates et autres sels de quinine et de morphine	Le kilog.	100 00
Sel ammoniac (chlorhydrate d'ammoniaque)	100 kilog.	36 00
Crême de tartre	"	100 00
Ammoniaque liquide	"	20 00
Couperoses—		
(*a.*) Vertes (sulfate de fer)	"	4 00
(*b.*) Bleues (sulfate de cuivre); et blanches (sulfate de zinc)	"	16 00
Acide sulfurique	"	6 00
" muriatique ou chlorhydrique	"	5 00
" nitrique	"	20 00
" plénique liquide	"	16 00
" citrique	"	200 00
" tartrique	"	144 00
Tous autres sels, acides, oxydes, et produits chimiques non dénommés ailleurs	"	45 00

Inclosure 2.

17. Salts, Acids, et Oxydes.

Dénomination des Marchandises.	Unité.	Droit, piastres or.
		Prs. c.
Soude (carbonate de soude)—		
(*a.*) Brute ou cristallisée	100 kilog.	4 40
(*b.*) Calcinée	"	6 40
Soude caustique, liquide, ou cristallisée	"	9 60
Potasse (carbonate de potasse)—		
(*a.*) Brute	"	12 00
(*b.*) Pure, cristallisée ou calcinée	"	32 00
Potasse caustique—		
(*a.*) Liquide	"	20 00
(*b.*) Cristallisée	"	44 00
Salpêtre (nitrate de potasse)		Prohibé
Salpêtre du Chili (nitrate de soude)	100 kilog.	16 00
Prussiate de potasse—		
(*a.*) Jaune	"	88 00
(*b.*) Rouge	"	176 00
Chromate de potasse	"	48 00
Chlorate de potasse	"	56 00
Muriate de potasse	"	8 00
Chlorure de chaux	"	6 50
Chlorure de magnésium	"	12 00
Sulfate de soude (sel de Glauber), et sulfate de magnésie—		
(*a.*) Brute	"	5 00
(*b.*) Raffiné	"	12 00
Alums—		
(*a.*) Bruts	"	6 00
(*b.*) Raffinés ou calcinés	"	24 00
Sulfate de quinine et autres préparations de quinine et de morphine	Le kilog.	100 00
Carbonate d'ammoniaque	100 kilog.	56 00
Sel ammoniac (chlorhydrate d'ammoniaque)	"	40 00
Ammoniaque liquide	"	20 00
Sulfates de fer et de cuivre mélangés; de cuivre, de zinc (vitriols), et autres sulfates non dénommés	"	8 00
Acide nitrique	"	20 00
Acide muriatique ou chlorhydrique	"	5 00
Tartre brut	"	24 00
Crême de tartre	"	104 00
Acide citrique	"	200 00
Acide tartrique	"	144 00
Minium	"	20 00
Arsenic, acides arsénique et arsénieux	"	20 00
Sulfure d'arsenic (orpiment, réalgar)	"	32 00
Acide oxalique	"	48 00
Acide sulfurique	"	6 00
Borax	"	52 00
Acide borique	"	64 00
Sel de cuisine (marin et sel gemme)		Prohibé
Tous autres sels, acides, oxydes, et produits chimiques non dénommés ailleurs	100 kilog.	45 00

No. 74.

Mr. Sturrock to Earl Granville.—(*Received August* 13.)

My Lord, *Chamber of Commerce, Dundee, August* 12, 1884.

AT a meeting of the Directors of this Chamber held lately, a feeling was expressed that it would be a great boon were some information procured regarding the state at which negotiations now stood in connection with the Treaty of Commerce with Turkey.

The President will feel much obliged if your Lordship can furnish the Chamber with any details.

I have, &c.

(Signed) ROBT. STURROCK, *Secretary*.

No. 75.

Lord E. Fitzmaurice to Mr. Stürrock.

Foreign Office, August 14, 1884.

Sir,

I AM directed by Earl Granville to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 12th instant, and, in reply, I am to state that the commercial negotiations with Turkey are not sufficiently advanced to enable a statement to be made with respect to the goods in which the Dundee Chamber of Commerce is interested.

I am, &c.
(Signed) EDMOND FITZMAURICE.

No. 76.

Lord E. Fitzmaurice to Mr. Muspratt.

Foreign Office, August 14, 1884.

Sir,

IT will be in your recollection that last year communications respecting the classification of chemicals in the Turkish Tariff, and the rates of duty to be charged on them, passed between yourself and Mr. Kennedy and Mr. Wrench. Mr. Wrench has lately asked for your further advice in the matter; and in reply to an instruction to him to prepare a statement of the points to be considered, the inclosed papers have now been received.*

I am directed by Earl Granville to request that you will be so good as to examine the subject as stated in the inclosed papers, and to afford the benefit of your opinion on the points now raised, for communication to Mr. Wrench. It is requested that these papers, which are sent in original, may be returned with your reply.

I am, &c.
(Signed) EDMOND FITZMAURICE.

No. 77.

Mr. Muspratt to Lord E. Fitzmaurice.—(*Received August* 18.)

31, *Dale Street, Liverpool, August* 16, 1884.

My Lord,

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge your letter of the 14th instant, with inclosures, asking my opinion upon the points raised in the communication from Constantinople, dated the 8th August, and, in reply, I beg to say that the simplification of the Tariff in the second Table, which it is proposed to substitute for the first, is in every way a great improvement.

With respect to the chemicals, which are of the greatest importance to English trade, viz., those used in the manufacture of soap, &c., I note with pleasure that the duties suggested do not surpass 8 per cent. on the average values which I gave in my previous letter with the exceptions of those on "chlorure de chaux" and "sulfate de soude," which appear to me somewhat high. The price which I gave as a fair one for "chlorure de chaux" delivered at a Turkish port was 15 fr. 81 c. per 100 kilog., and 8 per cent. on this price would be 1 fr. 20 c., or, say, 5 piastres per 100 kilog. instead of 6 fr. 50 c. in the Table. And as the price of "sulphate de soude" is much lower, the duty on that article ought not to exceed 3 piastres, instead of 5 piastres, as given in the rates.

I am, &c.
(Signed) EDMUND K. MUSPRATT.

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* Inclosure in No. 75.

No. 78.

Earl Granville to the Earl of Dufferin.

(No. 115. Commercial.)

My Lord,

Foreign Office, August 20, 1884.

I TRANSMIT to your Excellency herewith, for Mr. Wrench's information and guidance, copy of a letter from Mr. Muspratt,* expressing an opinion on the points raised in the statement inclosed in your Excellency's despatch No. 176, Commercial, of the 6th instant.

I am, &c.
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 79.

Mr. Lister to Mr. Muspratt.

Sir,

Foreign Office, August 23, 1884.

I AM directed by Earl Granville to thank you for your letter of the 16th instant relative to the proposed duties on chemicals in the Turkish Tariff, and to state that a copy of it has been sent to Constantinople for Mr. Wrench's information and guidance.

I am, &c.
(Signed) T. V. LISTER.

No. 80.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(*Received August* 27.)

(No. 168 A. Commercial.)

My Lord,

Therapia, August 5, 1884.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's despatch No. 102, Commercial, of the 26th ultimo, and to inclose a despatch which I have received from Mr. Wrench on the present position of the cotton duties in the new Turkish Tariff.

I have, &c.
(Signed) DUFFERIN.

Inclosure in No. 80.

Mr. Wrench to the Earl of Dufferin.

My Lord,

Constantinople, August 2, 1884.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Excellency's despatch of yesterday's date, inclosing, in original (herewith returned), Earl Granville's despatch No. 102, Commercial, and instructing me to furnish a statement as to the present position of the question of cotton duties in the new Turkish Tariff.

In reply, I have the honour to state that, owing to the absence on leave of Bertram Effendi, one of my Ottoman colleagues, no formal discussion of the duties on cotton yarns and fabrics has as yet taken place. Since I forwarded to your Excellency, in my despatch of the 15th May last, the latest Ottoman proposals, I have confined myself to stating unofficially to Michael Effendi the principal objections to these proposals which were contained in Sir Joseph Lee's letter to Lord Edmond Fitzmaurice of the 5th June, and to suggesting that such modifications should be introduced into the said proposals as would meet these objections. Such is the present state of the question. It is in abeyance until the return of Bertram Effendi, for which I cannot fix a date. Cotton yarns will be treated before fabrics in the new Tariff, and as Sir J. Lee's observations under the head of "yarns," in his letter before quoted, did not appear to me conclusively to show whether he was in favour of all yarns being classed together as proposed by the Ottoman delegates, or whether a sub-division, under which

* No. 77.

the lower numbers of yarns would be taxed at a lower rate than the higher numbers, would be more acceptable to English manufacturers, I ventured to submit this question to your Excellency. But as Earl Granville now states that it is understood that I am in communication with Sir Joseph Lee on the subject of cotton duties as a whole, I can in future, I presume, ascertain through him the opinion of manufacturers on this and similar points of detail.

I have, &c.
(Signed) WILLIAM H. WRENCH.

No. 81.

Earl Granville to the Earl of Dufferin.

(No. 124. Commercial.) *Foreign Office, September 6, 1884.*

My Lord,

THE autumn meeting of the Associated Chambers of Commerce will this year be held on the 29th instant. The question of the Turkish Tariff is likely to be discussed. I should therefore be glad to receive from your Excellency before that date a Report, for public use if necessary, on the present position of Turkish commercial negotiations generally, and as to the probable intentions of the Porte with regard to the temporary rate of duty, 8 per cent. *ad valorem*, now levied.

I am, &c.
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 82.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(Received September 20.)

(No. 188. Commercial.) *Therapia, August 30, 1884.*

My Lord,

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship herewith, a copy of a despatch which I have received from Mr. Wrench inclosing the *procès-verbaux* of the 23rd, 24th, 25th, and 26th meetings of the Commission appointed for the negotiation of a new Commercial Tariff, together with their several Annexes.

I have, &c.
(For the Earl of Dufferin),
(Signed) HUGH WYNDHAM.

Inclosure 1 in No. 82.

Consul Wrench to the Earl of Dufferin.

Constantinople, August 28, 1884.

My Lord,

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith to your Excellency copies of the 23rd, 24th, 25th, and 26th meetings of the Commission for the preparation of the new Turkish Tariff, together with their several Annexes.

At the 23rd meeting of the Commission three chapters of the Tariff were discussed and the duties to be levied on leather (Chapter 69, "Cuirs"), articles made of leather (Chapter 70, "Articles de cuir"), and furrier's goods (Chapter 71, "Pelleterie") were adopted.

The duties on leather, Chapter 69, are calculated at the rate of 10 per cent. on average values, and as British leather, which is imported into Turkey to a very small extent in comparison with German, French, and Russian leather, is both of a better quality, and of greater value than the foreign sorts, the tax will fall light on English productions. These remarks will also apply to the following Chapter 70, articles made of leather, which are taxed at 15 per cent., but to which England contributes to a small extent in the superior varieties. Furs, and articles made from furs, in Chapter 71, are taxed at 10 per cent. in the hope that a comparatively light taxation may put a stop to the contraband trade in furs that has long existed. These goods, coming almost exclusively from Leipsic, do not interest English commerce.

The Annex to the 24th sitting of the Commission includes Chapters 72, 73, 76, 77, and 78.

The contents of Chapter 72, hair, bristles, feathers, &c. ("Poils, plumes, et matières à rembourrer") do not concern English trade, nor do cotton ("Coton brut ou peigné") in Chapter 73, nor vegetable textile substances ("Matières végétales à filer, à l'exception du coton") in Chapter 76. All these are taxed at 8 per cent. Chapter 77 treats of yarns of flax, hemp, and other vegetable fibres ("Fils de lin, de chanvre, et d'autres matières végétales à filer") which are taxed at 8 per cent. I obtained considerable reductions in the values fixed for these yarns, and consider that on the whole, as the taxes now stand, they are favourable to English manufacturers. Exception must, however, be made with regard to jute yarns which, as will be seen in the 24th *procès-verbal*, I have for the present reserved. It is just possible that on the return of Bertram Effendi I may be able to combine with him some way of introducing jute yarns into the Tariff at a fair valuation, and I will not consequently ask for further instructions on this point for the present.

Ropemaker's goods ("Ouvrages de cordier") in Chapter 78 are of no great interest to English trade, but the values are very moderate. String, rope, and cables are at a nominal 8 per cent. duty, nets at 10 per cent., and girths, pipes, buckets, &c., at 12 per cent.

The Annex to the 25th meeting of the Commission consists of Chapter 86, which comprises ready-made clothing of all sorts ("Habits confectionnés, articles de mode, linge de corps"). The taxation of all the articles included in this Chapter is calculated at 15 per cent. The trade in these goods is with Germany and Austria, and does not affect England except in some rare exceptions, and in garments of a superior quality which will consequently be admitted on advantageous terms.

At the 26th meeting of the Commission I discussed with Michaël Effendi, assisted by the German expert, Püschel Effendi, Chapters 79, tissues of linen, and 85, woollen fabrics. I sought to introduce a few changes into the former Chapter, the greater portion of which is favourable to English goods; and in the latter to reconcile, if possible, the classifications and prices presented with the requirements of the Yorkshire trade. But I perceived that in the absence of Bertram Effendi, with whose concurrence the Tables had been prepared, his colleague, Michaël Effendi, hesitated to admit any radical alterations into these important chapters, and I therefore determined to reserve both linen and woollen fabrics until after the return to his post of Bertram Effendi. Should I be unable then to agree with my colleagues, I shall have the honour to address your Excellency on these questions.

I have, &c.
(Signed) WILLIAM H. WRENCH.

Inclosure 2 in No. 82.

Procès-verbal No. 23.—Séance du 3 (15) Juillet, 1884.

LES Délégués des Gouvernements de Turquie et d'Angleterre se sont réunis aujourd'hui, 3 (15) Juillet, 1884.

E. Bertram Effendi est absent en vertu d'un congé.

Le Délégué Ottoman est assisté par Püschel Effendi, Chef des Commissions d'Evaluations.

Le procès-verbal de la séance précédente est lu et approuvé.

Les Délégués examinent les Nos. 69, 70, et 71 du Projet de Tarif et tombent d'accord sur les résultats fixés dans l'Annexe.

(Signé) WILLIAM H. WRENCH.
MICHAEL PORTUGAL.

Pour copie conforme :
Le Secrétaire,
(Signé) J. P. VAZZIDIS.

Annexe au Procès-verbal No. 23.

69. Cuirs.

Dénomination des Marchandises.	Unité.	Droit, piastres or.
		Prs. c.
(*a.*) Cuir à semelles et cuirs semblables tannés, non corroyés	100 kilog. ..	140 00
(*b.*) Cuir corroyé à l'usage du sellier et du harnacheur: couleur naturelle ("béyaz sabounlou kenssélé"), noirci ("siyah sabounlou kenssélé"), jaune ("sari tourounelji sabounlou kenssélé"); cuir de Russie dit "telatine," teint ou non teint ..	" ..	190 00
(*c.*) Peaux et vachettes corroyés et graissés, couleur naturelle, noircis ou cirés; peaux de chèvres corroyées et graissées; noircies, même graissées non comprises au § (*d*)	" ..	270 00
(*d.*) Peaux de mouton et de chèvre, et autres peaux corroyées, teintes et toutes les peaux chagrinées, à dessins ou lustrées	" ..	450 00
(*e.*) Cuirs vernis de toute espèce (moutons, veaux, chèvres, vaches, chevaux et autres)	" ..	500 00
(*f.*) Peaux de chevreaux préparées pour la ganterie; veaux mégissés dits "gand" et autres cuirs mégissés; cuir chamoisé	" ..	650 00
Parchemin	" ..	600 00
Cuir factice ("talache")	" ..	20 00
Avant-pieds et tiges pour chaussures et courroies de toute espèce	..	20 pour cent en sus de la taxe du cuir dont ils sont confectionnés.

70. Articles en Cuir.

Ouvrages en cordouan, en maroquin, en peaux de Bruxelles et de Hanemarle, en peaux chamoisées ou mégies, en cuir teint ou vernis et en parchemin, même combinés avec d'autres matières non comprises au Groupe No. 98—		
(*a.*) Gants de peaux	100 kilog. ..	4,125 00
(*b.*) Chaussures y compris celles confectionnées en drap ou autres tissus	" ..	1,050 00
(*c.*) Autres ouvrages, tels que: albums, portefeuilles, porte-monnaie, porte-cartes, étuis, mesures de tailleur, sacs de voyage, tuyaux de narguilehi, colliers, &c. ..	" ..	750 00
N.B.—Les bandages herniaires sont compris au Groupe No. 95.		
Toutes confectionnées	.. ..	210 00
Tout autre ouvrage de cordonnier, de harnacheur, de sellier, de mulletier et de semblables métiers, tels que: bottes, bottines, souliers, selles, harnais, mailles et en général tous les ouvrages en cuir tanné, rougi ou simplement usité; les mêmes ouvrages combinés avec d'autres matières communes; ouvrages en toile cirée; chalmiques ("bousses") en drap ou en étoffes; semblables combinés avec du cuir, de la toile cirée, ou d'autres articles de cette nature	.. ..	502 00

71. Pelleterie.

Peaux apprêtées, préparées (?) en blanc ou teintes—		
(*a.*) Peau d'agneau dite "d'Astrakan," en blanc, en noir, en gris	100 kilog. ..	960 00
(*b.*) Toute autre peau d'agneau; peau de mouton, de chèvre, et de chèvre d'Angora	" ..	80 00
Autres peaux pour la fabrication de fourrures, brutes, apprêtées ou teintes, entières, en morceaux ou en menus restes ("toulouma" et "tahta") mais non confectionnées—		
Zibeline hermine ("hakoun" et "ghaka"), chinchilla et renard bleu	" ..	3,000 00
Fouine, martre, petit gris, et écureuil ventre ou dos	" ..	1,800 00
Renard	" ..	400 00
Kolinsky ("sarl-samour")	" ..	1,000 00
Loup-cervier ("vachak")	" ..	700 00

Dénomination des Marchandises.	Unité.	Droit piastres or.
		Prs. c.
Chat-cervier ("cara-coulak")	100 kilog. ..	600 00
Chat sauvage ou domestique	" ..	150 00
Lièvre, lapin, putois	" ..	250 00
Loup, ours, tigre, lion, panthère	" ..	250 00
Autres animaux non dénommés	" ..	700 00
Pelisses en peau de mouton complètement ouvrés mais non revêtus de drap ou d'étoffe	" ..	300 00
Pelisses, couvertures et tapis doublés ou non doublés, garnis ou revêtus	" ..	75 pour cent. en sus de la taxe de la peau dont ils sont confectionnés.
Garnitures, bonnets, manchons et autres articles en fourrure, doublés ou non doublés, revêtus ou non revêtus d'étoffe ou autrement garnis, en tant que la peau dont ils sont confectionnés n'est pas taxée plus haut, auquel cas ils seront assujettis à la taxe fixée pour la peau	" ..	1,350 00
Bonnets, gants, chaussures, ni doublés, ni recouverts de fourrures, mais simplement bordés en pelleterie. (Voir la matière principale dont ils sont confectionnés.)		

(Signé) WILLIAM H. WRENCH.
MICHAËL PORTUGAL.

Pour copie conforme:
Le Secrétaire,
(Signé) J. P. Vazzidis.

Inclosure 3 in No. 82.

Procès-verbal No. 24.—Séance du 10 (22) Juillet, 1884.

LES Délégués des Gouvernements de Turquie et d'Angleterre se sont réunis aujourd'hui, 10 (22) Juillet, 1884.

E. Bertram Effendi est absent en vertu d'un congé.

Le Délégué Ottoman est assisté par Püschel Effendi, Chef des Commissions d'Evaluations.

Le procès-verbal de la séance précédente est lu et approuvé.

Ensuite les Délégués ont examiné les Groupes Nos. 72, 73, 76, 77, et 78 du Projet de Tarif et ont arrêté les taxes fixées dans l'Annexe.

Quant aux fils simples écrus de lin, de chanvre, de jute, &c. [Article 1 du Groupe 77], Mr. Wrench déclare que les intéressés en Angleterre ont demandé que les fils de jute soient assujettis à une taxe spéciale dûment proportionnée à leur valeur; qu'il reconnaît toutefois la difficulté de distinguer ces divers fils entre eux, ainsi que la modicité de la taxe de 40 piastres par 100 kilog. proposée par le Délégué Ottoman pour les simples écrus en ce qui concerne les fils de lin et de chanvre; mais que néanmoins il croit devoir se réserver de se prononcer définitivement à leur égard jusqu'à nouvelles instructions.

(Signé) WILLIAM H. WRENCH.
MICHAËL PORTUGAL.

Pour copie conforme:
Le Secrétaire,
(Signé) J. P. Vazzidis.

Annexe au Procès-verbal No. 24.

72. Poils, Plumes, et Matières à rembourrer.

Dénomination des Marchandises.	Unité	Droit, piastres or.
		Prs. c.
Cheveux	100 kilog. ..	2,400 00
Crin de queue de cheval, même tordu et soie de porc ..	" ..	200 00
Autres crins et poils d'animaux ; les laines exceptées ..	" ..	36 00
Plumes et duvet de literie	" ..	240 00
Plumes de parure brutes, telles que : plumes d'autruche, de marabout, d'oiseaux de paradis, de colibri, et autres	" ..	3,600 00
Autres plumes brutes, telles que : plumes de pigeon, de perdrix et autres	" ..	80 00
Crin végétal	" ..	36 00
Etoupe de lin et de chanvre	" ..	12 00
Autres matières à rembourrer, le coton excepté	" ..	4 00

73. Coton brut ou peigné.

Coton brut, peigné, teint ou blanchi	100 kilog.	40 00

76. Matières Végétales à filer, à l'exception du Coton.

Matières végétales à filer, savoir : chanvre, lin, jute, chanvre de manille, fibre de coco, et toutes autres, à l'exception du coton	100 kilog. ..	20 00

77. Fils de Lin, de Chanvre, et d'autres Matières végétales à filer.

Fils de lin, de chanvre, de jute, ou de toutes autres matières textiles végétales à l'exception du coton—		
(a.) Simple écru	100 kilog. ..	40 00
(b.) Simple, teint, imprimé,* ou lessivé ..	" ..	72 00
(c.) Retors écru	" ..	72 00
(d.) Retors, blanchi,† ou teint	" ..	120 00
N.B.—Sont considérés comme fluelles et taxés par conséquent d'après le Groupe No. 76 les fils dont les 20 mètres pèsent plus de 10 grammes.		

78. Ouvrages de Cordier.

Ouvrages de cordier, blanchis ou non-blanchis, goudronnés ou non-goudronnés—		
(a.) Ficelles, cordes, câbles	100 kilog. ..	80 00
(b.) Filets de chasse, de pêche, et autres rets ..	" ..	200 00
(c.) Torches de poix	" ..	30 00
Autres articles de cordier, tels que : sangles, tuyaux, sacs, &c.	" ..	72 00

(Signé) WILLIAM H. WRENCH.
MICHAËL PORTUGAL.

Pour copie conforme :
Le Secrétaire,
(Signé) J. P. Vazzidis.

Inclosure 4 in No. 82.

Procès-verbal No. 25.—Séance du 17 (29) Juillet, 1884.

LES Délégués des Gouvernements de Turquie et d'Angleterre se sont réunis aujourd'hui, 17 (29) Juillet, 1884.

E. Bertram Effendi est absent en vertu d'un congé.

Le Délégué Ottoman est assisté de Püschel Effendi, Chef des Commissions d'Évaluations.

Le procès-verbal de la séance précédente est lu et approuvé.

* Ajouté un mot "blanchi."

† Ajouté un mot "lessivé."

Les Délégués examinent le No. 86 du Projet de Tarif et tombent d'accord sur les résultats fixés dans l'Annexe.

(Signé) WILLIAM H. WRENCH.
MICHAËL PORTUGAL.

Pour copie conforme :
Le Secrétaire,
(Signé) J. P. Vazzidis.

Annexe au Procès-verbal No. 25.

86. Habits Confectionnés; Articles de Mode, Linge de Corps.

Dénomination des Marchandises.	Unité.	Droit, piastres or.
		Prs. c.
Linge de corps cousu de tissus de lin ou de coton, tels que : chemises, faux cols, manchettes, jupons, &c. ..	100 kilog. ..	625 00
Jupons de feutre	" ..	225 00
Vêtements pour hommes, femmes, et enfants ; autres articles confectionnés non dénommés ailleurs cousus de tissus (coiffes, corsets, écharpes confectionnées, ruches, résilles, manchons d'étoffes, &c.), selon que la matière qui domine* est—		
Du coton ou du lin	" ..	600 00
De la laine ou de la demi-laine	" ..	825 00
De la soie en tant que l'article confectionné est sans doublure ou double de soie	..	Taxe de la soie dominant dans la surface augmentée de 10 pour cent.
De la soie en tant que l'article confectionné est doublé d'autres tissus	..	Taxe de la soie dominant dans la surface.
Cravates—		
(a.) Entièrement en soie	..	Taxe de la soie augmentée de 10 pour cent.
(b.) Autres	100 kilog. ..	1,050 00
Vêtements et articles de mode en caoutchouc ainsi que recouverts ou imprégnés de caoutchouc	" ..	675 00

(Signé) WILLIAM H. WRENCH.
MICHAËL PORTUGAL.

Pour copie conforme (sauf la rectification suivante) :*
Le Secrétaire,
(Signé) J. P. Vazzidis.

Inclosure 5 in No. 82.

Procès-verbal No. 26.—Séance du 24 Juillet (5 Août), 1884.

LES Délégués des Gouvernements d'Angleterre et de Turquie se sont réunis aujourd'hui, 24 Juillet (5 Août), 1884.

E. Bertram Effendi est absent en vertu d'un congé.

Le Délégué Ottoman est assisté par Püschel Effendi, Chef des Commissions d'Évaluations.

Le procès-verbal de la séance précédente est lu et approuvé.

* Ajouter trois mots : "dans la surface."

Les Délégués ont discuté les Nos. 79 et 85 du Projet de Tarif, mais ils ont réservé l'entente définitive pour une séance ultérieure.

(Signé) WILLIAM H. WRENCH.
MICHAEL PORTUGAL.

Pour copie conforme:
Le Secrétaire,
(Signé) J. P. VAZZIDIS.

No. 83.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(Received September 24.)

(No. 104. Commercial.)

Therapia, September 10, 1884.

My Lord,

WITH reference to my despatch No. 157, Commercial, of the 24th July, in which I informed your Lordship that the French Embassy had addressed a note to the Sublime Porte demanding the application of the 8 per cent. *ad valorem* system to French merchandize, I have the honour to report that on the 4th instant Assim Pasha addressed a note to the Marquis de Noailles, setting forth the views of the Sublime Porte with regard to his Excellency's demand.

In this note, after complaining of the long interval during which the negotiations for a new Commercial Tariff had been suspended, Assim Pasha declared that the Sublime Porte would be ready to acquiesce in the demand put forward by the French Embassy, on the condition that a term should be fixed for the settlement of the question between the two Governments respecting the revision of the Tariff and the introduction into the Treaty of 1861 of the modifications proposed by the Ottoman Government.

In conclusion Assim Pasha stated that should this term expire without a satisfactory settlement being made, the Sublime Porte would recover its full liberty of action.

I have, &c.
(Signed) DUFFERIN.

No. 84.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(Received September 24.)

(No. 109. Commercial.)

Therapia, September 15, 1884.

My Lord,

I HAVE the honour, in obedience to the instructions contained in your Lordship's despatch No. 124, Commercial, of the 6th instant, to transmit herewith a Report which has been drawn up by Mr. Wrench, and which, I trust, will be found to contain the information desired on the present position of Turkish commercial negotiations generally, and as to the probable intentions of the Porte with regard to the temporary rate of 8 per cent. *ad valorem* duty now levied.

I have, &c.
(For the Earl of Dufferin),
(Signed) HUGH WYNDHAM.

Inclosure in No. 84.

Memorandum by Consul Wrench on the present position of Turkish Commercial Negotiations.

MR. WRENCH has now terminated the whole of the new Tariff, 99 Chapters, with the following exceptions:—

Chapter 41. Rough articles in iron or steel, neither polished nor varnished with superior varnish.—This chapter includes carpenters', agricultural, and engineers' tools, cutlers, safes, iron bedsteads, and other iron and steel goods. Mr. Wrench has proposed to classify these articles in groups, as suggested by the Sheffield Chamber of Commerce, his Turkish colleagues are favourable to the system of grouping, but the

instructions under which the German Delegate has been acting have hitherto stood in the way of a satisfactory classification being arrived at. It is not anticipated that much difficulty will be encountered in obtaining an acceptable result, with duties varying from 8 to 12 per cent. on average values.

Chapter 74. Cotton yarns.—In this chapter the classifications have been decided on, as well as the rate of duty at 8 per cent., and the only thing that remains is to fix the values on coloured yarns respecting which divergence of opinion exists between English manufacturers and the Ottoman Delegates. This matter will in a short time be discussed, and the results arrived at will be reported to the Foreign Office before any decision will be taken by Mr. Wrench.

Chapter 75. Cotton tissues.—This is the most important chapter for British commerce, and as yet great divergence of opinion exists between the Ottoman Commissioners and Mr. Wrench, acting in the interests of English manufacturers. The Ottoman Commissioners desire, by introducing the greatest simplicity into the classifications of cotton tissues, to simplify Custom-house procedure, effect thereby economy, and render impossible any disputes between importers and Custom-house officers. Thus the average price for each group of yarns is exceedingly high for the lower varieties, and English heavy and cheap fabrics would bear the greatest burden of the taxation. Mr. Wrench is now endeavouring to arrive at a compromise under which, while maintaining as simple a classification as possible, low-classed goods will be more favourably treated than they can be under the system proposed by the Ottoman Commissioners.

Chapter 79. Tissues, embroideries, lace, &c., of hemp, flax, and other vegetable substances, other than cotton.—This chapter does not present so many difficulties as the preceding, and it is anticipated that a satisfactory classification may without much trouble be come to. The rates of duties demanded by the Ottoman Delegates are, however, somewhat heavier than Mr. Wrench's instructions allow, and he will endeavour to obtain reductions for the coarser qualities.

Chapter 82. Tissues, embroideries, lace, &c., of silk.—This chapter has not yet been discussed by Mr. Wrench in the Commission. It will be sufficient, therefore, to say that the Ottoman Commissioners do not propose, in consequence of the impossibility of providing each Turkish Custom-house with honest and capable experts, to make any distinction between silk and waste silk tissues, but to classify all similar fabrics under two divisions, pure and mixed.

Chapter 85. Tissues of wool.—The portion of this chapter relating to carpets and fittings has been finished, but the remainder has not yet been discussed. The classifications proposed by the Ottoman Delegates are exceedingly simple, and the distinction between pure wools and mixed is confined to woollens, and woollens with cotton warp, it being contended that cotton introduced into the fabric in conjunction with the wool cannot be detected readily by the Turkish Custom-house officers without giving rise to disputes with importers, and thus keeping alive the corrupt methods now employed for settling such disputes. It is obvious that classifications on the above basis must throw the burden of taxation on the cheap fabrics, and it is with regard to this chapter and to that relating to cotton that the greatest difficulties present themselves for the British Commissioner.

The above are the chapters that remain to be discussed, but the amounts of taxation on several articles of the Tariff appearing in different chapters have been reserved for the ulterior decision of Her Majesty's Government by Mr. Wrench, under the instructions given him.

The Porte desires, for fiscal reasons, to levy 20 per cent. on the following goods: coffee, cocoa, tea, chocolate, sugar, and molasses, wines, spirits, and fermented liquors, petroleum, matches of all sorts, cigarette papers and playing cards, whereas the limit of taxation admitted by Her Majesty's Government is 15 per cent.

Memorandum on the probable intentions of the Porte with regard to the Temporary Rate of Duty, 8 *per cent.* ad valorem, *now levied.*

There is, and has been for some months, a total absence of any indication of the Porte's intentions in the above respect. For months preceding the 4th June, the date fixed by the Porte for the recovery of its liberty of action, rumour was rife and several modes of augmenting the Customs revenues were under discussion in Governmental circles, but since that date the matter has apparently been set aside, for we hear no longer of an intention to put the new Tariff suddenly in force nor to augment the *ad valorem* duties to 15 per cent. Such being the case one can only speak of pro-

babilities. The new Tariff is nearly completed by the German, British, and Russian Delegates, each of whom, after having gone through the Tariff from beginning to the end, is now occupied in striving to obtain for goods interesting their own country better terms than those offered by the Ottoman Commissioners. Thus, the new Tariff has been accepted in all its chapters by the Delegates of at least two Powers, the items reserved by Mr. Wrench have received the approval of the Delegates of Russia and of Germany, while those questioned by the Russian Commissioner have been accepted, as far as their instructions would permit, by the German Delegate and by the English. In short, the new Tariff is so far advanced towards completion that it is hardly to be presumed that the Porte will seek any method of augmenting its revenue other than putting it into execution.

That the Porte should seek the earliest possible occasion of doing so and thus escaping from the loss entailed upon it by the present system is be expected, it is also to be expected that the Powers, especially those enjoying the 8 per cent. *ad valorem* treatment, will endeavour to delay as long as they can the application of heavier duties to the merchandize of their respective countries.

It does not appear possible that at any very proximate date the new Tariff can be enforced. The Delegates of Austria, France, and Italy, in fact of every Power with the exception of England, Germany, and Russia, have not yet commenced the discussion of the new Tariff, nor is the Porte at one with several of these Powers as to their Treaty rights in connection with commerce.

But Great Britain has placed herself in an exceptionally favourable position for combating any disposition on the part of the Porte to apply the new Tariff to her commerce, in common with that of the other Treaty Powers, previous to the fulfilment of certain engagements.

In the instructions addressed to Mr. Wrench by Her Majesty's Ambassador, dated the 31st January, 1884, Her Majesty's Government, quoting from the promises made by the Porte, which appear in the Porte's note to the Earl of Dufferin of the 8th July, 1882, and in the Memorandum which accompanied the draft Tariff prepared by the Ottoman Delegates, and sent to Mr. Wrench on the 2nd July, 1883, made it a condition for agreeing to the Porte's proposals respecting a new Tariff that a simplified system of Custom-house operations shall be introduced, that declarations of goods should be accepted, that bonded warehouses should be established, and that transit and internal duties should be abolished. Most of these reforms must, perforce, be introduced gradually, and follow rather than precede the introduction of the new Tariff.

The Porte desires a revenue estimated at 50,000,000 piastres (455,000*l.*) from the internal duties alone, and it is hardly to be expected that it will abolish those duties before receiving some equivalent under the new Tariff. But there is one condition —the establishment of bonded warehouses—which is patent and subject to no controversial argument. Her Majesty's Government can therefore, referring to the declaration made by Mr. Wrench in the sitting of the Commission held on the 21st January (2nd February), 1884, and which, being so made, may be considered as an official declaration, intimate to the Porte that under no circumstances could the new Tariff be applied to British goods until the principal ports of the Empire possess bonded warehouses. It would take at least one year to complete the erection of such warehouses.

(Signed) WILLIAM H. WRENCH.

Therapia, September 13, 1884.

No. 85.

Mr. Wyndham to Earl Granville.—(*Received October* 8.)

(No. 220. Commercial.)

Constantinople, September 30, 1884.

My Lord,

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith to your Lordship a despatch which I have received from Mr. Wrench, inclosing the *procès-verbaux* of the twenty-seventh, twenty-eighth, twenty-ninth, and thirtieth meetings of the Commission charged with the negotiation of a new Commercial Tariff between England and Turkey, together with the Annexes attached to those documents.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HUGH WYNDHAM.

Inclosure 1 in No. 85.

Consul Wrench to Mr. Wyndham.

Sir, *Constantinople, September* 27, 1884.

I HAVE the honour to inclose copies of the *procès-verbaux* of the 27th, 28th, 29th, and 30th meetings of the Commission charged with the preparation of a new commercial Tariff with Turkey, as well as of the Annexes to these documents.

At the 27th meeting of the Commission, Chapters 80, 81, 83, 84, and 87 of the new Tariff were discussed, and the results were recorded in the annex to the Minutes of that sitting.

The following particulars will enable an estimate to be formed of the average prices decided upon for the different goods :—

Chapter 80. Cocoons and raw silk ("cocons") are taxed at the rate of 8 per cent. on estimated values.

Chapter 81. Spun silk ("Soie filée") of all varieties is treated under two classifications only, each of which contains perforce goods of widely different values. The amount of 600 piastres fixed for the first class is, however, calculated to represent 12 per cent., and the amount of 1,200 piastres agreed to for the second class is from 8 to 10 per cent. on the value of the average of importations.

Chapter 83. Unspun wool ("Laine non filée) is taxed at 8 per cent.

Chapter 84. Woollen yarns ("Fils et ouate de laine") are also taxed at 8 per cent., but wadding of wool ("ouate de laine") is assessed at a 10 per cent. duty.

Chapter 87. Fezes, hats, and bonnets, feathers, and artificial flowers ("Fez, chapeaux, plumes de parure, fleurs artificielles") are subjected to a duty of 15 per cent.

There are but few articles in the above chapters that interest British trade with Turkey. They are to be found in Chapters 81, 84, and 87, and I think their treatment has not been unfavourable.

The chapters of the new Tariff discussed at the 28th sitting of the Commission are the 88th, 89th, 90th, and 91st.

Chapter 88. India-rubber ("Caoutchouc") is taxed at 8 per cent.

Chapter 89. Elastic cords, oil-cloths, &c. ("Fils de caoutchouc, toile cirée") are taxed at 8, 10, 12, and 15 per cent. For the first article mentioned in this chapter, the duty (480 piastres) represents 8 per cent. on value; for the second and third articles, the sums of 800 and 600 piastres represent 10 per cent.; for the fourth and fifth, the amounts of 36 and 90 piastres respectively represent about 12 per cent., and the remaining articles of the chapter are taxed at the rate of 15 per cent.

Chapter 90. Articles manufactured from india-rubber ("Articles de caoutchouc") are taxed at 15 per cent.

Chapter 91. Furniture ("Meubles") is taxed at 15 per cent., with the exception of the common articles mentioned in the notes inserted in this chapter.

English trade is interested in india-rubber goods and oil cloths, but is not concerned in the furniture trade, which, however, is small.

At the 29th sitting of the Commission, Chapters 92 and 93 were discussed.

Chapter 92. The carriage and boat-building trade ("carrosserie et embarcations"). The articles mentioned in this chapter are taxed at from 10 to 15 per cent.

Railway rolling stock and agricultural carts, &c., are at 10 per cent. Tramway waggons, children's and invalid's carriages are at 12 per cent. and the remaining articles at 15 per cent.

Chapter 93. Machinery ("Machines") is assessed at an 8 per cent. duty.

English trade is not interested in the carriage-building industry and but to a small extent in boat-building, but machinery is of importance to England, and I am of opinion that the duty will in most cases fall below the rate of 8 per cent., considering that the commonest sorts of machines are not imported, although it was upon these that the values were fixed.

At the 30th sitting of the Commission, Chapters 94, 95, and 96 were discussed.

Chapter 94. Musical instruments ("Instruments de musique") are taxed at 12 per cent.

Chapter 95. Scientific instruments ("Instruments scientifiques") are all classed together, their importation into Turkey being very insignificant.

The duty of 320 piastres is supposed roughly to represent an 8 per cent. duty on average values.

Chapter 96. Clock and watchmakers' goods ("Montres") are taxed at from 3 to 15 per cent.

When with gold cases, watches bear a 3 per cent. duty; when with silver or other metal cases, a 5 per cent. duty is charged, and the remaining articles of the chapter bear from 10 to 15 per cent. taxation.

English trade is not interested to any great extent in any of these three chapters, but I consider that in all of them the average values have been fairly and even liberally assessed.

I have, &c.
(Signed) WILLIAM H. WRENCH.

Inclosure 2 in No. 85.

Procès-verbal No. 27.—Séance du 31 Juillet (12 Août), 1884.

LES Délégués des Gouvernements de Turquie et d'Angleterre se sont réunis aujourd'hui, le 31 Juillet (12 Août), 1884.

E. Bertram Effendi est absent en vertu d'un congé.

Le Délégué Ottoman est assisté de Pischel Effendi, Chef des Commissions d'Évaluations.

Le procès-verbal de la séance précédente est lu et approuvé.

Les Délégués examinent les Groupes Nos. 80, 81, 83, 84, et 87 du Projet de Tarif et tombent d'accord sur les résultats fixés dans l'Annexe.

(Signé) WILLIAM H. WRENCH.
MICHAËL PORTUGAL.

Pour copie conforme :
Le Secrétaire,
(Signé) J. P. Vazzidis.

Annexe au Procès-verbal No. 27.

80. Cocons.

Dénomination des Marchandises.	Unité.	Droit, piastres or.
		Prs. c.
Cocons de vers à soie non percés	100 kilog. ..	240 00
Bourre de soie, frisons, cocons percés et autres déchets—		
(a.) En masse, teints ou non teints	" ..	160 00
(b.) Peignés, teints ou non teints	" ..	320 00
Soie brute (grège et moulinée)	" ..	800 00

81. Soie Filée.

Cordonnets noirs pour puskul et puskul confectionné avec ces cordonnets	100 kilog. ..	600 00
Soie blanchie ou teinte ; soie filée ou retorsée teinte ou non teinte (soie à coudre, à broder, et autres) ; fils de bourre de soie simples ou retors, teints ou non teints	" ..	1,200 00

83. Laine non Filée.

Laine, y compris celle d'alpaga, de lama, de vigogne, d'Angora et d'autres chèvres ainsi que le poil de chameaux—		
(a.) Brut en suint ou lavée	100 kilog. ..	36 00
(b.) Peignée ou cardée	" ..	80 00
(c.) Teinte	" ..	160 00
Shoddy et autres déchets de laine	" ..	16 00

84. Fils et Ouates de Laine.

Fils de laine ou de mohair, simples, retors, écrus, blanchis, teints ou imprimés	100 kilog. ..	240 00
Fils de poils de vache et d'autres poils grossiers de toute espèce	" ..	64 00
Ouate de laine	" ..	150 00

87. Fez, Chapeaux, Plumes de Parure, Fleurs Artificielles.

Dénomination des Marchandises.	Unité.	Droit, piastres or.
		Prs. c.
Fez avec ou sans gland (puskul)	100 kilog. ..	825 00
Chapeaux en paille, en jonc de baleine, en palmier—		
(a.) Non garnis	La pièce ..	0 90
(b.) Garnis pour hommes	" ..	1 50
(c.) Garnis pour dames	" ..	3 75
Chapeaux en roseau, liber, tresse de bois, &c., garnis ou non	" ..	0 45
Chapeaux en soie pour hommes	" ..	6 75
Chapeaux de feutre et autres chapeaux pour hommes non dénommés	" ..	3 00
Chapeaux pour dames non dénommés—		
(a.) Non garnis	" ..	3 00
(b.) Garnis et parés ainsi que chapeaux de paille garnis de plumes de parure	" ..	12 00
Plumes de parure préparées—		
(a.) D'autruche, d'oiseau de paradis, de colibri, de marabout, et autres	Le kilog. ..	105 00
(b.) De pigeon, de perdrix, et semblables	" ..	7 50
Fleurs et feuilles artificielles en tissus, même combinées avec d'autres matières non comprises au Groupe 98, .	" ..	20 25

(Signé) WILLIAM H. WRENCH.
MICHAËL PORTUGAL.

Pour copie conforme :
Le Secrétaire,
(Signé) J. P. Vazzidis.

Inclosure 3 in No. 85.

Procès-verbal No. 28.—Séance du 7 (19) Août, 1884.

LES Délégués des Gouvernements d'Angleterre et de Turquie se sont réunis aujourd'hui, le 7 (19) Août, 1884.

E. Bertram Effendi est absent en vertu d'un congé.

Le Délégué Ottoman est assisté de Pischel Effendi, Chef des Commissions d'Évaluations.

Le procès-verbal de la séance précédente est lu et approuvé.

Les Délégués ont examiné les Groupes Nos. 88, 89, 90, et 91 du Projet de Tarif et sont tombés d'accord sur les résultats fixés dans l'Annexe.

(Signé) WILLIAM H. WRENCH.
MICHAËL PORTUGAL.

Pour copie conforme :
Le Secrétaire,
(Signé) J. P. Vazzidis.

Annexe au Procès-verbal No. 28.

88. Caoutchouc.

Dénomination des Marchandises.	Unité.	Droit, piastres or.
		Prs. c.
Caoutchouc et gutta-percha bruts ou épurés en masse ..	100 kilog. ..	160 00
Caoutchouc durci, en plaques, barres, et tuyaux ..	" ..	240 00
Caoutchouc et gutta-percha dissous (liquides)	" ..	200 00

89. Fils de Caoutchouc, Toile Cirée.

Dénomination des Marchandises.	Unité.	Droit, piastres or.
		Prs. c.
Fils de caoutchouc	100 kilog. ..	480 00
Fils de caoutchouc surfilés—		
(a.) De fil de soie	" ..	800 00
(b.) De fil de coton, de laine, de chanvre, &c. ..	" ..	600 00
Toile cirée—		
(a.) Ordinaire grossière pour emballage (toile goudronnée)	" ..	36 00
(b.) Autres toiles cirées et toile cuir	" ..	90 00
Toile de relieur	" ..	210 00
Mousseline et taffetas cirés	" ..	600 00
Tissus de toute sorte enduits ou imprégnés de caoutchouc.	" ..	360 00

90. Articles en Caoutchouc.

Galoches en caoutchouc et autres articles ordinaires en caoutchouc ou en gutta-percha, tels que: ouvrages communs de cordonnier, de sellier, de harnacheur, de malletier et autres, ni teints ni imprimés, même combinés avec d'autres matières non comprises au Groupe No. 98	100 kilog. ..	375 00
Ouvrages en caoutchouc ou gutta-percha, teints ou imprimés; ouvrages en caoutchouc, gutta-percha durci, de toute espèce ainsi que en celluloid ou autres compositions analogues, tels que: boîtes, poignées, &c., les mêmes ouvrages combinés avec des matières non comprises au Groupe No. 98	" ..	750 00
Tissus de fils de coton, lin, laine, soie, &c., combinés avec des fils de caoutchouc, tels que: élastiques pour bottines, &c.	" ..	825 00
Bonneterie de fils de coton, lin, laine, soie, &c., combinés avec des fils de caoutchouc	" ..	900 00

91. Meubles.

Meubles en bois courbés, montés ou non montés ..	100 kilog. ..	97 50
Meubles en vannerie, teints ou non teints	" ..	150 00
Meubles autres qu'en bois courbé ou en vannerie—		
Sièges sans sculpture ni marqueterie, ni ornements de cuivre ou d'autres métaux—		
(a.) En bois commun	" ..	82 50
N.B.—Les sièges en bois commun ni teints, ni vernis, sont taxés d'après l'article 1er du Groupe No. 92.		
(b.) En bois d'ébénisterie	" ..	135 00
Sièges sculptés, dorés, bronzés, marquetés ou ornés de cuivre ou d'autres métaux communs, de toute espèce de bois	" ..	210 00
Meubles autres que sièges, comme ordinaires, tables, buffets, commodes, &c.—		
(a.) Plaqués, sans sculpture ni marqueterie, ni ornements de cuivre ou d'autres métaux ..	" ..	127 50
(b.) Plaqués, sculptés, marquetés, ou ornés de cuivre ou d'autres métaux communs ..	" ..	210 00
(c.) Massifs en bois commun	" ..	82 50
N.B.—Les meubles massifs en bois commun, ni teints, ni vernis, sont taxés d'après l'article 1er du Groupe No. 92.		
(d.) Massifs en bois d'ébénisterie avec ou sans moulure, mais non sculptés, ni marquetés, ni ornés de cuivre ou d'autres métaux ..	" ..	135 00
(e.) Massifs en bois d'ébénisterie sculptés, marquetés, ou ornés de cuivre et tous les meubles en bois dorés ou bronzés ..	" ..	240 00
Meubles garnis et recouverts de toute espèce ..	" ..	225 00
Meubles en fer (voir les Groupes Nos. 83, 90, et 91).		

(Signé) WILLIAM H. WRENCH.
MICHAEL PORTUGAL.

Pour copie conforme:
Le Secrétaire,
(Signé) J. P. Vazzidis.

* Ajouté un mot "ou."

Inclosure 4 in No. 85.

Procès-verbal No. 29.—Séance du 14 (26) Août, 1884.

LES Délégués des Gouvernements de Turquie et d'Angleterre se sont réunis aujourd'hui, le 14 (26) Août, 1884.

E. Bertram Effendi est absent en vertu d'un congé.

Le procès-verbal de la séance précédente est lu et approuvé.

Les Délégués examinent les Groupes Nos. 92 et 93 du Projet de Tarif et tombent d'accord sur les résultats fixés dans l'Annexe.

(Signé) WILLIAM H. WRENCH.
MICHAEL PORTUGAL.

Pour copie conforme:
Le Secrétaire,
(Signé) J. P. Vazzidis.

Annexe au Procès-verbal No. 29.

92. Carrosserie et Embarcations.

Dénomination des Marchandises.	Unité.	Droit, piastres or.
		Prs. c.
Wagons de chemin de fer pour marchandises ou bagages—		
(a.) Couverts	La pièce ..	1,500 00
(b.) Ouverts, haut-bords, plate-formes	" ..	1,100 00
Wagons de chemin de fer pour voyageurs—		
(a.) Rembourrés, tels que: wagons de 1re et 2e classe	" ..	5,000 00
(b.) Non-rembourrés, tels que: wagons de 3e classe .	" ..	3,300 00
Wagons pour tramways	" ..	900 00
Voitures à ressort rembourrées ou non—		
(a.) Couvertes, telles que: landaus, omnibus, coupés, &c.	" ..	1,875 00
(b.) Non couvertes, telles que: phaétons, cabriolets, &c.	" ..	1,200 00
N.B.—Les voitures à ressort comprises dans les paragraphes (a) et (b) ci-dessus qui seraient importées en blanc, c'est-à-dire ni peintes ni vernies, acquitteront 20 pour cent en moins.		
Fourgons et autres voitures de roulage à ressort ..	" ..	375 00
Chars, chariots, brouettes, et voitures destinés aux exploitations rurales en bois brut, même avec ferrures, mais sans ressort	100 kilog. ..	25 00
Voitures et vélocipèdes pour enfants; voitures à ressort pour malades	" ..	84 00
Chaises à porteur	" ..	225 00
Vélocipèdes	" ..	225 00
Embarcations—		
(a.) Barques à rames (sandals et caïques)	La pièce ..	180 00
(b.) Autres embarcations	" ..	12 pour cent *ad valorem*

93. Machines.

Locomotives et locomobiles	100 kilog. ..	40 00
Chaudières à vapeur	" ..	20 00
Machines à coudre ainsi que parties de machines à coudre	" ..	50 00
Autres machines selon que la matière qui domine est—		
(a.) Du bois, de la fonte de fer, du fer forgé, de l'acier, ou de la tôle de fer	" ..	32 00
(b.) Du cuivre, du laiton, ou d'autres métaux ..	" ..	96 00

(Signé) WILLIAM H. WRENCH.
MICHAEL PORTUGAL.

Pour copie conforme:
Le Secrétaire,
(Signé) J. P. Vazzidis.

Inclosure 5 in No. 86.

Procès-verbal No. 30.—Séance du 21 Août (2 Septembre), 1884.

LES Délégués des Gouvernements d'Angleterre et de Turquie se sont réunis aujourd'hui, le 21 Août (2 Septembre), 1884.

E. Bertram Effendi est absent en vertu d'un congé.

Le procès-verbal de la séance précédente est lu et approuvé.

Les Délégués ont examiné les Groupes Nos. 94, 95, et 96 du Projet de Tarif et sont tombés d'accord sur les résultats fixés dans l'Annexe.

(Signé) WILLIAM H. WRENCH.
MICHAEL PORTUGAL.

Pour copie conforme:
Le Secrétaire,
(Signé) J. P. VAZZIDIS.

Annexe au Procès-verbal No. 30.

94. INSTRUMENTS DE MUSIQUE.

Dénomination des Marchandises.	Unité.	Droit, piastres or.
		Prs. c.
Pianos—		
(a.) Droits	La pièce ..	360 00
(b.) A queue	" ..	840 00
Orgues pour église	" ..	2,700 00
Orgues à manivelle	" ..	120 00
Cloches et clochettes (voir ouvrages en bronze, fonte, &c., suivant la matière).		
Carillons et boîtes à musique non combinés avec des horloges	100 kilog. ..	420 00
Harmonicas et autres instruments de musique; accessoires et pièces détachées d'instruments de musique ..	" ..	300 00
Cordes pour instruments de musique de toute espèce ..	" ..	960 00

95. INSTRUMENTS SCIENTIFIQUES.

Instruments scientifiques, tels que: instruments d'astronomie (boussoles, quarts de cercle, globes terrestres et célestes, &c.); de chirurgie (trousses de chirurgie, lancettes, pincettes, seringues, &c.); d'optique (appareils de photographie, microscope, télescope, longue-vue, jumelles de théâtre, lunettes à branche, loupes, lorgnettes, &c.); de mathématique,* compas, tire-ligne, équerres pliantes, chaînes d'arpentage, mires à niveler, &c.; de physique (télégraphes électro-magnétiques et pneumatiques, aéromètres, alcoomètres, thermomètres, baromètres, vaporimètres, &c.); ainsi que les parties détachées de ces instruments	100 kilog. ..	320 00
Balances (voir la matière principale dont elles sont fabriquées).		

96. MONTRES.

Montres—		
(a.) A boîtes d'or	La pièce ..	15 00
(b.) A boîtes d'argent, de nickel, ou de matières autres que l'or, même dorées	" ..	5 00
Mouvements de montres montés ou non montés parties de mouvements	Le kilog. ..	80 00
Horloges et pendules de toute espèce	" ..	2 70
Mouvements d'horloge et de pendule montés ou non montés, parties de ces mouvements	" ..	1 50
Réveils	La pièce ..	6 00
Compteurs divers, tels que: gazomètres, podomètres, hydromètres, et autres	Le kilog. ..	1 50

(Signé) WILLIAM H. WRENCH.
MICHAEL PORTUGAL.

Pour copie conforme (sauf la correction suivante):*
Le Secrétaire,
(Signé) J. P. VAZZIDIS.

* Ajoutés trois mots: "étuis de mathématique."

No. 86.

Mr. Wyndham to Earl Granville.—(Received October 8.)

(No. 225. Commercial.)

My Lord, *Constantinople, October 1, 1884.*

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith to your Lordship copy of a despatch which I have received from Mr. Wrench, inclosing the *procès-verbal* with its Annex of the 31st sitting of the Commission charged with the negotiation of a new Commercial Tariff between Great Britain and Turkey.

The concluding chapters of this Tariff having been examined at this sitting, the inclosed *procès-verbal* with its Annex will complete the series.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HUGH WYNDHAM.

Inclosure 1 in No. 86.

Consul Wrench to Mr. Wyndham.

Sir, *Constantinople, September 30, 1884.*

AT the 31st sitting of the Commission charged with the negotiation of a new Commercial Tariff, the concluding chapters of this Tariff were examined. I have the honour, therefore, to forward separately the *procès-verbal* with its Annex and thus complete the series.

I have now examined the new Tariff from the beginning to the end, and with the exception of six chapters and of certain articles which the Porte consider as fiscal, have decided, subject to the approval of Her Majesty's Government, upon the duties to be levied on all articles of importation when the Tariff comes into force.

The chapters thus reserved are the following:—

Chapter 40 which comprises rough articles of iron and steel. My colleagues are reserving for the present the discussion of proposals I have made with the object of grouping various classes of tools, &c., together; Chapters 74 and 75 which relate to cotton goods and are now under examination; Chapter 79, which includes linen tissues, has been examined, but I am waiting for further information on certain points previous to continuing the discussion; Chapter 82 treats of silk tissues, the examination of which has only been commenced, and Chapter 85 of woollen tissues, the treatment of which is at the same stage as the chapter concerning linen goods.

With regard to the articles upon which the Porte desires to levy a 20 per cent. duty, I will report later on in a separate despatch.

I am now occupied with the question of cotton manufactures and also with the examination of certain modifications introduced into the Tariff by the Ottoman Delegates in conjunction with the German or Russian Commissioners, and subsequent to my examination of the chapters in which they appear. The question of tare is also now being submitted to my examination.

Having thus described, in a few words, the present position of the negotiations in which I am engaged, I will proceed to report on the results of the 31st sitting of the Commission.

At this sitting, Chapters 97, 98, and 99 of the new Tariff were discussed.

Chapter 97. Arms ("Armes non prohibées") are all taxed at 15 per cent. on very moderate valuations.

Chapter 98. Jeweller's, gold- and silversmith's work and fine fancy articles ("Mercerie fine et quincaillerie de luxe") are variously taxed. Precious stones are rated from ½ per cent. for diamonds to 3 per cent. for pearls. Gold- and silversmith's work is assessed from 1½ per cent. to 3 per cent., and false gold and silver wire and thread at 8 per cent. Jewellery is taxed at a nominal 12 per cent., as are the other articles of this chapter, with the exception of wigmaker's goods, umbrellas and parasols, fans, &c., upon which the duty is supposed to represent 15 per cent. upon a broad valuation.

Chapter 99. Works of literature and art ("Œuvres de littérature et d'arts") are to be subjected to a duty which may roughly be estimated as representing from 8 to 10 per cent. on a low valuation.

The articles enumerated in these three chapters may be considered, as regards English trade, of secondary importance, affecting the retail trade.

I have, &c.
(Signed) WILLIAM H. WRENCH.

Inclosure 2 in No. 86.

Procès-verbal No. 31.—Séance du 28 Août (9 *Septembre*), 1884.

LES Délégués des Gouvernements de Turquie et d'Angleterre se sont réunis aujourd'hui, le 28 Août (9 Septembre), 1884.

E. Bertram Effendi est absent en vertu d'un congé.

Le procès-verbal de la séance précédente est lu et approuvé.

Se référant à l'engagement qu'il avait pris dans une séance précédente (Procès-verbal No. 19) à propos du nouveau Tableau élaboré pour le Groupe 18 du Projet de Tarif, Mr. Wrench déclare qu'il accepterait définitivement ce nouveau Tableau pourvu que la taxe du chlorure de chaux et de potassium, et des sels de blanchiment, et celle du sulfate de soude et de magnésie, qui dépassent d'après lui le 8 pour cent, fussent abaissées.

Là-dessus les Délégués se sont réservés de faire de nouvelles constatations au sujet de ces deux Articles.

Ensuite les Délégués ont examiné les Groupes Nos. 97, 98, et 99 du Projet de Tarif, et sont tombés d'accord sur les résultats fixés dans l'Annexe.

(Signé) WILLIAM H. WRENCH.
MICHAËL PORTUGAL.

Pour copie conforme:
Le Secrétaire,
(Signé) J. P. Vazzidis.

Annexe au Procès-verbal No. 31.

97. Armes non Prohibées.

N.B.—Le Gouvernement ottoman désignera les armes dont l'introduction est prohibée.

Dénomination des Marchandises.	Unité.		Droit, piastres or.
			Prs. c.
Armes blanches—			
(*a.*) Lames non montées	100 kilog.	..	450 00
(*b.*) Autres parties d'armes blanches et armes blanches montées	"	..	900 00
Pistolets—			
(*a.*) A âme lisse	"	..	300 00
(*b.*) A âme rayée	"	..	1,800 00
Revolvers	"	..	900 00
Fusils se chargeant par la bouche—			
(*a.*) A un canon	"	..	240 00
(*b.*) Autres	"	..	600 00
Fusils se chargeant par la culasse	"	..	975 00
Canons de fusil bruts	"	..	96 00

98. Mercerie fine, Quincaillerie de Luxe.

Agates, malachites, jaspes et autres pierres analogues, brutes	Le kilog.	..	1 50
Pierres précieuses brutes, polies ou égrisées—			
(*a.*) Diamants, émeraudes, opale noble, rubis, saphir	Le gramme	..	30 00
(*b.*) Topaze noble, turquoise et autres pierres précieuses non dénommées	"	..	2 00
Perles fines non montées	"	..	3 00
Véritables coraux fins non montés	Le kilog.	..	50 00
Ouvrages entièrement en argent, même dorés	"	..	45 00
Ouvrages entièrement en or ou en platine	"	..	200 00
Ouvrages en or, en platine ou en argent combinés avec des diamants, perles, coraux ou autres pierres fines ou précieuses	"	..	200 00
N.B.—Dans le cas où les objets indiqués aux trois articles ci-dessus seraient combinés avec des matières autres que celles énumérées plus haut, l'importateur aura le droit de séparer ces matières.			
Or et argent fin ou faux battu en feuilles, en livrets, y compris le poids de ces livrets	"	..	30 00

Dénomination des Marchandises.	Unité.		Droit, piastres or.
			Prs. c.
Fils, paillettes, lamettes, bouillons, cannetilles d'or ou d'argent, rouleau compris—			
(*a.*) Fin	Le kilog.	..	25 00
(*b.*) Faux	"	..	6 00
Klapdan d'or ou d'argent sur fil de soie, de coton, ou d'autres matières à filer—			
(*a.*) Fin	"	..	15 00
(*b.*) Faux	"	..	8 00
Articles composés en tout ou en partie d'écaille, d'ivoire, d'ambre, de jais, d'écume de mer, de nacre	"	..	54 00
Articles en agates, malachite, jaspes et pierres analogues	"	..	6 60
Service de table, vaissailles, candélabres, bracelets, médaillons, boucles, chaînes, tous objets servant à la parure des hommes et des femmes, ainsi que tous autres articles composés en tout ou en partie de métaux communs plus ou moins dorés, ou argentés, ou finement polis ou vernis en imitation de l'or ou de l'argent, ou combinés avec de l'émail, de l'agate, de lava de pierres analogues, de pierres fausses ou d'autres ornements	..	..	6 60
Ouvrages en cire fins et travaillés en bosse, tels que: imitations de perles, de fleurs, ou de fruits	..	..	19 00
Têtes de poupées en cire, masques en cire, et autres articles en cire non denommés	"	..	6 00
Ouvrages de perruquier (cheveux ouvrés)	"	..	75 00
Parapluies et parasols—			
(*a.*) Avec couverture en soie ou demi-soie	"	..	12 00
(*b.*) Avec couvertures d'autres tissus	"	..	4 00
Éventails revêtus d'étoffes, poupées habillées, broderies sur carton ou cuir, porte-monnaies revêtus de tissus et autres articles de quincaillerie fine, composés en partie de matières à tailler, de métaux communs, de verre, de caoutchouc, de gutta-percha, de cuir, de papier, de carton, de paille, de faïence, de porcelaine, et d'autres matières non dénommées ci-dessus et en partie de filés ou de tissus—			
(*a.*) De soie	"	..	16 50
(*b.*) D'autres matières textiles	"	..	6 00

99. Œuvres de la Littérature et des Arts.

Papiers et livres manuscrits, même reliés	..	..	Exempts
Imprimés en toutes langues, cartes géographiques et musique imprimée, même reliés	100 kilog.	..	125 00
Gravures de toute espèce, lithographies, images imprimées en couleurs sur carton ou papier; photographies	"	..	150 00
Planches gravées en métal ou en bois; clichés	"	..	240 00
Pierres lithographiques couvertes de dessins, de gravures, ou d'écritures	"	..	30 00
Peintures et dessins à la main	Le kilog.	..	20 00
Statues, bustes et figures d'animaux en pierre. (Voir Groupe 33).			
Statues, bustes et figures d'animaux en métal pesant la pièce plus de 5 kilog.	100 kilog.	..	250 00

(Signé) WILLIAM H. WRENCH.
MICHAËL PORTUGAL.

Pour copie conforme:
Le Secrétaire,
(Signé) J. P. Vazzidis.

No. 87.

Mr. Wyndham to Earl Granville.—(*Received October* 23.)

(No. 230. Commercial. Confidential.)

Therapia, October 17, 1884.

My Lord,

IN his despatch No. 194, Commercial, of the 10th ultimo, the Earl of Dufferin informed your Lordship that the Ottoman Minister for Foreign Affairs had addressed a note to the French Ambassador stating that the Ottoman Government would be ready to acquiesce in the demand of the French Government that French merchandize should be treated upon the 8 per cent. *ad valorem* system, on the condition that a term should be fixed for the settlement of the question between the two Governments respecting the revision of their Tariff and the introduction into the Treaty of 1861 of the modification proposed by the Ottoman Government.

I now learn that the French Embassy has stated to the Sublime Porte, in reply, in a note dated the 7th instant, that while the French Government is disposed to facilitate the negotiation of a new Tariff, and to take into consideration the modifications which the Ottoman Government wish to introduce into the Treaty of 1861, it cannot entertain the proposal of the Sublime Porte that a term should be fixed for the settlement of those questions.

The note added that fresh instructions would be given to the French Delegate on this head, and that the Government of the Republic would leave nothing undone to accelerate the settlement of the questions at issue, and to come to an understanding as to the introduction into the Treaty of 1861 of any modifications which might prove to be for the mutual advantage of France and Turkey.

In conclusion, the French Ambassador again demanded that French-imported merchandize should for the future be taxed upon the 8 per cent. *ad valorem* system.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HUGH WYNDHAM.

No. 88.

Mr. Wyndham to Earl Granville.—(*Received October* 31.)

(No. 233. Commercial.)

Therapia, October 21, 1884.

My Lord,

IN my Confidential despatch No. 230, Commercial, of the 17th instant, I informed your Lordship that the French Ambassador had addressed a note to the Sublime Porte stating that, while the French Government could not entertain the proposal of the Ottoman Government that a term should be fixed for the settlement of the questions between the two Governments as regards the negotiations for a new Tariff and the modifications to be introduced into the Treaty of 1861, it would do everything in its power to accelerate the settlement of those questions, and would give fresh and complete instructions on this head to its Delegate.

I now learn that, in reply to this communication, the Ottoman Minister for Foreign Affairs has addressed a note to the French Embassy, stating that the Sublime Porte having taken into consideration the assurances given by the French Government, accedes to their demand, that French merchandize imported into Turkey should enjoy the benefit of the 8 per cent. *ad valorem* system until the conclusion of the new Tariff.

His Excellency concluded by stating that instructions in this sense had been already given to the Administration of the Indirect Contributions.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HUGH WYNDHAM.

No. 89.

Mr. Wyndham to Earl Granville.—(*Received November* 6.)

(No. 240. Commercial.)

Constantinople, October 31, 1884.

My Lord,

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith to your Lordship a copy of a despatch which I have received from Mr. Wrench inclosing copies of the *procès-verbaux* of the

32nd and 33rd meetings of the Commission charged with the preparation of a new Commercial Tariff, together with one Annex.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HUGH WYNDHAM.

Inclosure 1 in No. 89.

Consul Wrench to Mr. Wyndham.

Sir,

Constantinople, October 29, 1884.

I HAVE the honour to inclose copies of the *procès-verbaux* of the 32nd and 33rd meetings of the Commission charged with the preparation of a new Commercial Tariff, together with one Annex.

At the 32nd meeting the articles mentioned by Mr. Muspratt in his letter of the 16th August as being taxed above 8 per cent. of their value, were discussed, and the taxes to be levied upon them were settled. I produced evidence of value from importing merchants, which agreed with similar evidence collected by my Ottoman colleagues, and the discussion resulted, as is recorded in the *procès-verbal*, in a diminution from 5 piastres to 4 piastres per 100 kilog., as the tax to be levied upon sulphate of soda, but in the maintenance of the rate of duty previously imposed upon "chloride of lime and potassium, and other bleaching salts," which tax, according to the importer's testimony, represents rather less than 8 per cent. on normal prices, and much less on the values now ruling.

At the above-mentioned meeting my colleagues handed me a document laying down the principles on which the tare to be deducted from the gross weight of bales, cases, &c., would be applied. This document forms the Annex to the 33rd *procès-verbal*, and it was at this latter meeting that I accepted the application of these principles, which appear to me to be fair and even liberal.

I received also at the same sitting a copy, bound up in the form of a book, of the whole Tariff as resulting from the negotiations with the Delegates of England, Germany, and Russia. The contents agree with the several Annexes I have had the honour to forward from time to time to Her Majesty's Embassy, with the exception of certain articles and taxes which have been altered in accordance with the modifications introduced, subsequent to the decisions arrived at by me, at the instance of the German or of the Russian Delegates.

These modifications affect but to a limited extent English commerce, and as a general rule, take the form of reductions on the taxes I accepted. The Tariff in its new form sets forth the percentage of tare to be applied to each description of merchandize, but it is yet necessarily far from being complete, considering the many items and even chapters which are yet under discussion by myself, as well as by the Delegates of Germany and Russia. For this reason I do not propose to submit it to your examination until a majority at least of the points under consideration have been settled.

I commenced at the 33rd meeting on the question of the duties to be applied to cotton goods, and will, in a separate despatch, report upon what has been done under this head.

I have, &c.
(Signed) WILLIAM H. WRENCH.

Inclosure 2 in No. 89.

Procès-verbal No. 32.—*Séance du* 3 (15) *Septembre*, 1884.

LES Délégués des Gouvernements d'Angleterre et de Turquie se sont réunis aujourd'hui 3 (15) Septembre, 1884.

E. Bertram Effendi est absent en vertu d'un congé.

Le procès-verbal de la séance précédente est lu et approuvé.

Les Délégués ont fait de nouvelles constatations à propos des deux articles du groupe 18, dont l'abaissement de la taxe a été demandée par Mr. Wrench.

La taxe de l'article "chlorure de chaux," &c., a été trouvée équivalente au taux de

5 pour cent d'après les prix moyens de la place; celle de l'article "sulfate de soude," &c., a été abaissée d'un commun accord à 4 piastres or les 100 kilog. Le groupe ainsi modifié a été accepté définitivement par Mr. Wrench.

Le Délégué Ottoman a donné ensuite communication à son collègue d'Angleterre des principes généraux de la tare.

(Signé) WILLIAM H. WRENCH.
MICHAËL PORTUGAL.

Pour copie conforme:
Le Secrétaire,
(Signé) J. P. Vazzidis.

Inclosure 3 in No. 89.

Procès-verbal No. 33.—Séance du 11 (23) Septembre, 1884.

LES Délégués des Gouvernements de Turquie et d'Angleterre se sont réunis aujourd'hui 11 (23) Septembre, 1884.

Le procès-verbal de la séance précédente est lu et apprové.

Les principes généraux de tare dont communication a été faite à Mr. Wrench dans la séance précédente, ont été adoptés dans la forme consignée à l'Annexe.

Quant à l'application de ces principes au projet de Tarif arrêté avec Mr. Wrench, les Délégués de Turquie ont proposé à leur collègue d'Angleterre de prendre pour base de délibérations un nouveau projet de Tarif qu'ils viennent d'élaborer d'après les résultats que les négociations avec les Délégués d'Angleterre, d'Allemagne, et de Russie ont donnés. A cet effet ils sont communiqué un exemplaire du nouveau projet à Mr. Wrench, qui promet de l'étudier.

Mr. Wrench communique à son tour les propositions que les Chambres de Manchester lui ont envoyées en dernier lieu pour les groupes 74 et 75 du projet de Tarif ("coton filé et tissus de coton"). Les Délégués Ottomans en prennent copie avec promesse d'examiner les propositions en question et de se prononcer à la prochaine séance.

(Signé) WILLIAM H. WRENCH.
E. BERTRAM.
MICHAËL PORTUGAL.

Pour copie conforme:
Le Secrétaire,
(Signé) J. P. Vazzidis.

Annexe au Procès-verbal No. 33.

Principes pour l'Application de la Tare.

1. Aucune tare n'est accordée pour des emballages qui ne sont ni usités dans le commerce, ni appropriés au commerce; ces sortes d'emballages seront considérés comme des marchandises spéciales et taxés en conséquence. Néanmoins, l'importateur a la faculté de payer pour le total la taxe la plus élevée soit du contenu, soit du contenant.

2. Il n'est également accordé aucune tare* pour les récipients renfermant immédiatement les liquides.

Les liquides renfermés dans un double fût n'auront une bonification de tare que pour le fût extérieur, et les liquides en bouteilles et flacons que pour l'emballage qui renferme ces bouteilles ou flacons.

3. Toutes les marchandises d'importation pour lesquelles une tare est accordée par le Tarif acquittent généralement les droits de Douane pour le poids résultant de la pesée annulée du contenu et du contenant, après déduction d'un tant pour cent établi dans le Tarif pour chacune d'elles. Néanmoins, l'importateur a le droit de demander la constatation et la déduction de la tare réelle, et d'acquitter les droits d'après le poids net de la marchandise constaté conformément aux règles suivantes:—

4. La tare réelle à constater et à déduire se compose—

(*a.*) Du poids des récipients usités dans le commerce ou appropriés au commerce, tels que: fûts, caisses en bois même doublées de zinc, de fer-blanc ou de toile cirée;

* Ajouter les vingt-trois mots suivants: "pour les marchandises d'importation dont les 100 kilog. sont assujettis à une taxe de 25 piastres ou au-dessous, ainsi que"

paniers, balles, ou sacs, ainsi que du poids de la paille, foin, mousse, rognures de papier, seiures de bois, et autres matières semblables de remplissage s'il y en a;

(*b.*) Du poids des boîtes en carton, des petites caisses en bois contenant des tissus, bonneteries, rubans, articles de mode, vêtements confectionnés, parasols, parapluies, verreries, porcelaines, articles en albâtre ou en marbre, quincaillerie, bijouterie, tabatières, fleurs artificielles, plumes de parure, éventails, gants, cigares, &c., en tant que ces boîtes et petites caisses sont de celles généralement usitées dans le commerce, et que vu leur matière ou travail, il n'y a pas lieu de les traiter et de les taxer comme une marchandise spéciale.

Lorsqu'un nombre donné de colis, de boîtes, ou de petites caisses présentent le même contenu, la même grandeur et le même emballage, la constatation de la tare réelle peut se faire par la pesée de l'emballage de l'un ou de plusieurs de ces colis, boîtes, ou petites caisses choisis par la Douane.

5. Aucune tare n'est applicable pour les emballages intérieurs suivants:—

(*a.*) Les récipients en verre, en terre, en pierre, en métal, en carton, ou en bois qui renferment les produits chimiques, cosmétiques, pharmaceutiques, ainsi que les confiseries et les couleurs;

(*b.*) Les récipients renfermant hermétiquement les comestibles;

(*c.*) Les enveloppes en bois, en cuir, en carton, &c., formés d'après les objets qu'ils contiennent, tels que: étuis pour les instruments de musique, d'optique, de chirurgie, à moins que l'importateur ne demande* à faire taxer séparément le contenu et le contenant;

(*d.*) Les boîtes renfermant du thé;

(*e.*) Les enveloppes en papier et les ficelles qui recouvrent les ferronneries, les aiguilles, les quincailleries, les verreries, les porcelaines, les tissus, les papiers, l'amidon, les cigares, le tabac, &c.;

(*f.*) Les boîtes en carton, en bois, ou en métal renfermant les allumettes, capsules, plumes d'acier, et autres marchandises qui se vendent usuellement avec les dites enveloppes;

(*g.*) Les cartons, planchettes, et bobines sur lesquelles des fils, rubans, tissus, ou autres objets confectionnés sont dévidés, roulés, ou fixés.

Sont exceptés de cette règle les cas où la perception d'après le poids net réel à constater est prescrite par le Tarif ainsi que les enveloppes qui, n'étant pas de celles généralement usitées dans le commerce, seraient assujetties à une taxe supérieure à celle du contenu. Si l'importateur ne consentait pas à séparer l'enveloppe du contenu, la Douane percevra la taxe qui donne lieu à la perception la plus élevée sur le poids résultant de la pesée cumulée du contenant et du contenu.

6. Est considéré comme: "balle dans le sens du Tarif," ou une enveloppe double de toile d'emballage ou d'autres tissus grossiers semblables, cerclés ou non cerclés, ou une enveloppe double de nattes, de jonc, de paille, de roseaux, ou enfin une enveloppe consistant en une couche de toile ou d'autres tissus grossiers, et une couche de nattes, de jonc, &c.

7. La tare fixée dans le Tarif pour les balles n'est accordée que jusqu'au poids brut de 400 kilog. à moins que le Tarif n'ait disposé autrement. Dans les cas surpassant cette limite l'importateur peut choisir la pesée nette ou se contenter d'une déduction de tare correspondant à† 400 kilog. bruts.

8. Lorsqu'une marchandise jouissant dans le Tarif d'une tare pour "les balles" est importée dans une enveloppe simple de toile d'emballage ou d'autres tissus grossiers semblables, la tare sera de 2 pour cent, sauf les cas où le Tarif prescrit pour les sacs (c'est-à-dire, pour l'emballage simple) une tare de 1 pour cent. Une enveloppe simple de natte, de jonc, de roseaux, de paille jouira de la moitié de la tare établie pour la balle.

9. La tare établie pour des fûts sera également donnée pour des caisses dans le cas où une tare pour des caisses n'était pas prévue, et *vice-versâ*.

10. Les emballages extérieurs usités dans le commerce, mais non spécialement désignés dans le Tarif à côté de l'article qu'ils concernent peuvent être séparés du contenu pour la taxation d'après le poids net, si l'article jouissait de la tare pour quelque autre récipient.

11. Les coffres (caisses ou malles) servant aux voyageurs sont exempts, même

* Rayer les huit mots suivants: "à moins que l'importateur ne demande à" et remplacer par les sept mots suivants: "cependant l'importateur aura le droit de"

† Rayer les sept mots suivants: "d'une déduction de tare correspondant à" et remplacer par les neuf mots suivants: "de la déduction qui serait accordée pour"

s'ils contiennent des articles passibles de droit de Douane, mais non destinés pour le commerce.

Jouissent de la même franchise les coffres des commis-voyageurs contenant des échantillons non passibles de droit.

No. 90.

Mr. Wyndham to Earl Granville.—(Received November 6.)

(No. 241. Commercial.)

Therapia, November 1, 1884.

My Lord,

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship herewith a copy of a despatch which I have received from Mr. Wrench inclosing copies of the *procès-verbaux* of the 34th and 36th meetings of the Commission charged with the negotiation of a new Commercial Tariff, together with one Annex, and a letter dated the 30th instant from Mr. J. W. Whittall.

As your Lordship will perceive, all these documents relate to the discussion of the duties to be applied to cotton yarns and fabrics.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HUGH WYNDHAM.

Inclosure 1 in No. 90.

Consul Wrench to Mr. Wyndham.

Constantinople, October 31, 1884.

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to inclose copies of the *procès-verbaux* of the 34th and 36th meetings of the Commission charged with the elaboration of a new Commercial Tariff, together with one Annex, and a letter dated the 20th instant from Mr. J. W. Whittall.

The whole of these documents relate to the discussion of the duties to be applied to cotton yarns and fabrics.

You will perceive by a perusal of the 34th *procès-verbal*, and of the Annex thereto, that I have obtained certain concessions from my Ottoman colleagues, in consequence of the representations of the Manchester Chamber of Commerce, with regard to the classification and taxes of cotton yarns. I have induced my colleagues to unite the blue yarns with those of other colours at the tax demanded for the latter, which amounts to a concession of 4 piastres per 100 kilog. on the blue yarns. I have also secured for double yarns a tax corresponding to an advance of 10 per cent. over the various descriptions of single yarns.

The principal points, beyond the above, upon which observations were made with respect to yarns by the Manchester Chamber, consisted in the amounts of taxation to be levied on red yarns, and on cotton on reels. On these two points I have collected evidence which tends to show that the Ottoman Delegates had not over estimated the values of these articles; and I think that the Manchester Chamber, upon reconsideration, will be disposed to admit that the tax as a specific 8 per cent. upon average values is a moderate one.

The chapter on yarns in its present form contains all the modifications which, in my opinion, it is possible to obtain from the Ottoman Delegates, and as far as my information enables me to form an idea, it represents a fair classification and moderate taxes, considering that the duties are specific and founded on average values. I therefore trust that it will meet with the approval of Her Majesty's Government.

You will further perceive from the contents of the *procès-verbaux* of the 34th and 36th meetings that after considerable discussion I have only been able to obtain one of the modifications of the Chapter 75, "cotton tissues" suggested by the Manchester Chamber, and communicated to me in Lord Dufferin's despatch of the 14th August last.

This modification consists in the creation of a separate class for bleached transparent tissues used by the natives for printing goods which are then called "Kalemkiars."

The description of this new class, although discussed at two meetings of the

Commission, is not yet definitely decided, but I hope to forward it within a brief delay.

I have further established the exact position of lappets and lappet shawls, as will be seen by a reference to *procès-verbal* No. 36.

I endeavoured at more than one sitting to induce my Ottoman colleagues to adopt the plan of taxing cotton fabrics which was proposed by the Manchester Chamber. All my arguments were, however, of no avail. It is but justice, however, to state that my colleagues, in saying that the plan suggested would be impracticable for Turkish custom-houses, make use of a legitimate argument on a subject with which they are thoroughly acquainted, and possess the support of the local merchants. They informed me in the course of discussion that the importers of Manchester goods wanted clear and simple classifications, and themselves were the first to object to anything which might place discretionary power in the hands of Customs officers, or in any way allow of discussion between themselves and these officers. I therefore wrote to Mr. Whittall, the President of the Committee I appointed in February last, and now beg to inclose his reply, in which the opinion on this subject of importers is unequivocally given.

In conclusion, I beg to state that I see no prospect of the Ottoman Commissioners being induced to make any change in the classifications of cotton fabrics, further than the introduction of the one class above mentioned. The amount of time they have already expended in studying the case and coming to a decision, renders it improbable that they will consent to a reconsideration with the view to the adoption of a new principle. If I might be allowed to make a suggestion, I would propose that the Manchester Chamber should consider favourably the latest Ottoman classifications, and should propose a percentage that each category could, without detriment to commerce, pay. The duties now appearing (see Inclosure 2 to my despatch of the 15th May last) represent roughly speaking an average of 15 per cent. on values. Perhaps the Manchester Chamber might see fit to accept the taxes proposed for velvets, embroideries, lace, hosiery, trimmings, and buttons, nets and lamp wicks, and might suggest certain duties or certain rates of duty for the other items in the chapter upon which I could negotiate. In this way, and apparently in no other, could a compromise acceptable to both parties be arrived at.

I have, &c.

(Signed) WILLIAM H. WRENCH.

Inclosure 2 in No. 90.

Procès-verbal No. 34.—Séance du 25 Septembre (7 Octobre), 1884.

LES Délégués des Gouvernements d'Angleterre et de Turquie se sont réunis aujourd'hui 25 Septembre (7 Octobre), 1884.

Le procès-verbal de la séance précédente est lu et approuvé.

Les Délégués Ottomans ont étudié les propositions des Chambres de Commerce de Manchester concernant les groupes 74 et 75 du projet de Tarif. Ils consentent à réunir "les fils simples bleus et autres couleurs" hormis les rouges sous une taxe commune de 88 piastres or par 100 kilog.; ils reconnaissent qu'il y a lieu d'établir pour les fils retors des taxes plus en rapport avec celles des simples; mais pour ces derniers ainsi que pour les fils accommodés pour le commerce de détail, ils maintiennent que les taxes précédemment établies représentent, d'après toutes les constatations ultérieures, exactement 8 pour cent de leurs valeurs moyennes. Par conséquent, les Délégués Ottomans proposent à leur collègue le Tableau qui fait l'objet de l'Annexe du présent procès-verbal. Mr. Wrench promet d'en recommander l'acceptation à son Gouvernement.

Quant au groupe 75 ("tissus de coton") les Délégués Ottomans ne croient pas pouvoir admettre la manière de voir de la Chambre de Commerce de Manchester recommandée par leur collègue d'Angleterre. Établir des droits spécifiques calculés sur la valeur de l'article le plus inférieur parmi ceux qui constituent chaque position de ce groupe, pratiquer la taxation *ad valorem* pour chaque cas particulier où la facture accuse une valeur plus élevée et recourir à une expertise au lieu d'origine ou de destination toutes les fois que les prix de la facture donnent lieu à des contestations, serait, dans l'opinion des Délégués Ottomans, un régime inexécutable pour les Douanes Ottomanes, même si l'importation des cotonnades et autres tissus était restreinte aux grands centres de commerce au détriment du trafic des petites villes. Le Tableau du

groupe 75 que les Délégués Ottomans avaient soumis à leur collègue de la Grande-Bretagne a été élaboré avec le concours des principaux négociants en cotonnades. Ils prient donc leur collègue de l'accepter; toutefois, ils sont prêts à consentir à créer une subdivision à l'Article 2 pour les tissus transparents blanchis destinés à la confection des "Kalemkiars" avec une taxe représentant 8 pour cent de la valeur moyenne de l'ensemble des articles qui composeront cette subdivision.

Mr. Wrench ayant écouté cette déclaration de ses collègues les prie de prendre note que son offre de 15 pour cent pour les tissus de coton était subordonnée à l'acceptation du projet de la Chambre de Manchester; il doit donc revenir sur la question des taux des taxes dans une séance prochaine.

(Signé) WILLIAM H. WRENCH.
E. BERTRAM.
MICHAEL PORTUGAL.

Pour copie conforme:
Le Secrétaire,
(Signé) J. P. VAZZIDIS.

Annexe au Procès-verbal No. 34.

74. COTON FILÉ ET OUATES.

Dénomination des Marchandises.	Unité.	Droit, piastres or.
		Prs. c.
Fils de coton simples—		
(a.) Écrus	100 kilog. ..	66 00
(b.) Blanchis	" ..	76 00
(c.) Rouges de toute qualité	" ..	105 00
(d.) Autres couleurs	" ..	88 00
Fils de coton retors—		75 00
(a.) Écrus	" ..	84 00
(b.) Blanchis	" ..	116 00
(c.) Rouges de toute qualité	" ..	97 00
(d.) Autres couleurs		
Fils de coton simples ou retors, accommodés pour le commerce de détail, c'est-à-dire mise en pelotes, bobines, petits écheveaux, cartes ou autres formes de mercerie, quelque soit le nombre de bouts, écrus, blanchis ou teints—		
(a.) Sur bobines en bois, bobines comprises ..	" ..	128 00
(b.) Autres	" ..	200 00
Vigogne, mélange de coton et de laine, le coton dominant en poids	" ..	120 00
Ouate	" ..	52 00

(Signé) WILLIAM H. WRENCH.
E. BERTRAM.
MICHAEL PORTUGAL.

Pour copie conforme:
Le Secrétaire,
(Signé) J. P. VAZZIDIS.

Inclosure 3 in No. 90.

Procès-verbal No. 30.—Séance du 9 (21) Octobre, 1884.

LES Délégués des Gouvernements d'Angleterre et de Turquie se sont réunis aujourd'hui 9 (21) Octobre, 1884.

Le procès-verbal de la séance précédente est lu et approuvé.

Mr. Wrench revenant au groupe No. 75 du projet de Tarif, invite particulièrement l'attention de ses collègues de Turquie sur deux propositions de la Chambre de Manchester d'après lesquelles (1) les mousselines, jaconats et "Kalemkiars" teints ou imprimés qui figurent à la classe c, § 1, seront portés au § 2 de la même classe assujettie dans le projet de Tarif à la taxe de 315 piastres; (2) les "lappets" et "lappet

shawls" entreront à la classe (*b*), § 2 s'ils sont faits avec des fils blanchis, et à la classe (*d*) s'ils contiennent des fils teints ou imprimés.

Les Délégués Ottomans déclarent qu'ils ne pourraient pas accepter la première proposition parce qu'ils iraient alors à l'encontre du but qu'ils se sont proposé lorsqu'ils acceptaient dans l'avant-dernière séance une taxe modérée pour les tissus transparents blanchis destinés à la confection des "Kalemkiars." Quant à la seconde proposition, les Délégués Ottomans déclarent qu'elle est conforme à leur manière de voir; que ces "lappets" (tissus brochés) ne peuvent être assimilés aux broderies, et que le projet de Tarif ne considère comme "broderies" que les étoffes qui, après le tissage du fond, ont été garnies de dessins, soit à la main, soit à l'aide de la machine à broder, mais non lorsque des dessins imitant la broderie auront été formés dans l'étoffe par le tissage même (étoffes brochées, &c.).

(Signé) WILLIAM H. WRENCH.
E. BERTRAM.
MICHAEL PORTUGAL.

Pour copie conforme:
Le Secrétaire,
(Signé) J. P. VAZZIDIS.

Inclosure 4 in No. 90.

Mr. Whittall to Consul Wrench.

Sir, *Stamboul, October* 20, 1884.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of the 16th instant, and in reply thereto, beg to state that the opinion of the Committee for Manchester goods coincides with the views of your Ottoman colleagues on the point of classification. I have only to confirm our previous Report on the subject and to state that any classification of goods by weight, combined with number of threads, with or without reference to invoices, would open the door to great abuses and would disturb commercial operations.

We freely admit that the mode proposed by the Manchester Chamber would be juster in its treatment of various goods, and might possibly even be more beneficial to some British articles; but unfortunately in the present state of the Turkish custom-houses we can only recommend the adoption of simple and comprehensive categories, in spite of their including cheap and dear goods, but always under the reservations suggested in our last Report.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. W. WHITTALL, *President.*

No. 91.

Lord E. Fitzmaurice to Sir J. Lee.

Sir, *Foreign Office, November* 8, 1884.

WITH reference to your letter of the 5th June last, I am directed by Earl Granville to transmit to you a despatch and its inclosures from Mr. Wrench, reporting the proceedings of the Commission for the new Ottoman Tariff with respect to duties on cotton yarns and fabrics.*

You will observe that Mr. Wrench has only partially succeeded in obtaining a settlement in the terms suggested in your above-mentioned letter, and that there appears to be no prospect that complete effect can be given to these suggestions. I am therefore to request that you will again take this subject into consideration and favour Lord Granville with your opinion as to the course which it is now expedient to take on behalf of Manchester trade.

I am at the same time to remind you that this country cannot at present claim any specific Tariff in trade with Turkey; that the 8 per cent. *ad valorem* duty now levied depends on Treaties between Turkey and other Powers; that it cannot be expected to remain long in force; and that when this arrangement ceases British

* Inclosure 1 in No. 90.

trade will come under the Tariff fixed by Treaty between Turkey and other Powers, unless a Tariff Treaty is concluded with this country.

I am, &c.
(Signed) EDMOND FITZMAURICE.

No. 92.

Sir J. Lee to Lord E. Fitzmaurice.—(*Received November* 12.)

56, *Moseley Street, Manchester, November* 11, 1884.

My Lord,

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge your letter of the 8th instant, with five inclosures, which I now return, having noted the contents.

I now submit, for the information of Earl Granville, the following statement:—

Procès-verbal No. 34, Yarns, &c.—I find considerable reduction has been made on the original proposals submitted. On red yarns, however, no reduction has been obtained. This class, unfortunately, is at present of little interest to us. Our merchants and producers have allowed the Swiss, Austrians, and Italians to secure 90 per cent. of the trade to Ottomon ports, whereas formerly 80 per cent. of it was in our hands. I have called the attention of our dyers to the question, and no doubt a revival of our interest will be the result.

I will not trouble your Lordship with a detailed statement on each item. I may say that the reduction on blue yarns and double yarns is agreeable to my proposals. In sewing yarns on bobbins our manufacturers prefer an *ad valorem* duty, as a weight duty will necessitate a great change in the mode of preparing the goods for the market, *i.e.*, making the bobbins thinner and lighter. Still, I do not see how we can press this point; and I wrote to Mr. Wrench that it would be as well to accept the proposal on this item, as the Tariff would then be entirely specific.

I do not see in the correspondence any reference to the question of tare. I am aware, however, that on these goods, if packed in cases, 18 per cent. is allowed, and this should be satisfactory to British merchants.

In my opinion, it is expedient to accept the proposal submitted in *Procès-verbal* No. 34 as to yarns, the duty on the whole importation being rather under an *ad valorem* Tariff of 8 per cent.

As to cotton fabrics, I refrain from making a report until the whole case is before me. I may, however, observe that the Ottoman Commissioners are trying to make a Tariff which shall enable them to detect bribery and smuggling; and in order to achieve their object, they propose to tax a fabric valued at 2*d.* per yard at the same rate as one valued at 4*d.* per yard. Consequently the lower article, which forms 70 per cent. of the total shipments, will have to bear a burden out of all proportion to its value. The letter of Mr. Whittal, referring to my proposal of the 31st July, can hardly be said to be the opinion of a thoroughly competent merchant. But I will deal with the facts when they are placed before me as a whole.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOSEPH C. LEE.

No. 93.

Mr. Darlington to Earl Granville.—(*Received November* 12.)

Bradford Chamber of Commerce, Exchange,
Bradford, November 11, 1884.

My Lord,

THROUGH the kindness of the Leeds Chamber of Commerce this Chamber has received the Turkish proposals with regard to the duties on woollen goods. The Chamber is also interested in silk and iron, and the Council will feel obliged if you will furnish them with any information relative to the proposed duties on those articles.

This information will be acceptable before the 18th, when the question will be discussed by the Yorkshire Chambers.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOHN DARLINGTON, *Secretary.*

No. 94.

Mr. Wyndham to Earl Granville.—(*Received November* 14.)

(No. 244. Commercial.)

My Lord,

Constantinople, November 7, 1884.

WITH reference to my despatch No. 240, Commercial, of the 31st ultimo, I have the honour to transmit copy of a despatch from Mr. Consul Wrench, inclosing the *procès-verbal* of the 35th meeting of the Tariff Commission.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HUGH WYNDHAM.

Inclosure 1 in No. 94.

Consul Wrench to Mr. Wyndham.

Sir,

Constantinople, November 2, 1884.

IN my last communication to you on the subject of the commercial negotiations, I had the honour to forward the *procès-verbaux* of the 34th and 36th meetings of the Tariff Commission. I now beg to inclose a copy of the records of the 35th meeting, and thus complete the series up to the date of the 21st October.

At this meeting, having previously examined the modifications introduced by my German and Russian colleagues into the classes and taxes that I had accepted, I agreed to them with one exception, as will be seen by a reference to the *procès-verbal* itself.

I also accepted the various rates of tare submitted to me, which appear as percentages to be deducted from the gross weight of bales, cases, baskets, double casks, sacks, &c., and which, when applied in accordance with the principles which are to regulate tare, inclosed in my despatch of the 29th ultimo, I consider to be reasonable.

On the grounds I mentioned in my despatch last quoted, I do not propose for the present submitting to you the revised form of the new Tariff.

I have, &c.
(Signed) WILLIAM H. WRENCH.

Inclosure 2 in No. 94.

Procès-verbal No. 35.—*Séance du* 2 (14) *Octobre,* 1884.

LES Délégués des Gouvernements de Turquie et d'Angleterre se sont réunis aujourd'hui 2 (14) Octobre, 1884.

Le procès-verbal de la séance précédente est lu et approuvé.

Le Délégué Anglais déclare qu'il a pris connaissance du nouveau projet de Tarif que ses collègues de Turquie lui ont communiqué dans l'avant-dernière séance avec les tares en regard.

Mr. Wrench accepte le nouveau projet sauf naturellement les articles pour lesquels une taxe de 20 pour cent est demandée ainsi que les groupes 40, 74, 75, 79, 82, et partie des groupes 41 et 85 qui sont encore en discussion, et demande seulement le rétablissement de la classe "conserves au vinaigre ou à la moutarde en bouteilles," taxé 60 piastres par 100 kilog. au groupe No. 11.

Quant aux tares, Mr. Wrench déclare les avoir examinées et les accepte telles qu'elles sont portées au nouveau projet qui lui fut communiqué.

Les Délégués Ottomans acceptent le rétablissement de la classe: "conserves au vinaigre ou à la moutarde," taxé 60 piastres par 100 kilog.

(Signé) WILLIAM H. WRENCH.
E. BERTRAM.
MICHAËL PORTUGAL.

Pour copie conforme:
Le Secrétaire,
(Signé) J. P. VAZZIDIS.

No. 95.

Earl Granville to Mr. Wyndham.

(No. 140. Commercial.) *Foreign Office, November 14, 1884.*

Sir,

THE Bradford Chamber of Commerce have applied for information relative to the proposed new duties in Turkey on silk and iron. I have, therefore, to request that you will obtain a Memorandum on the subject from Mr. Wrench for communication to the Chamber.

I am, &c.
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 96.

Lord E. Fitzmaurice to Mr. Darlington.

Foreign Office, November 14, 1884.

Sir,

I AM directed by Earl Granville to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 11th instant relative to the Turkish Tariff. I am to request that you will state to the Bradford Chamber of Commerce, in reply, that the paper respecting the proposed duties on woollen goods was communicated unofficially to Mr. Marshall, at the suggestion of Mr. Wrench, and that he undertook to consult the Yorkshire Chambers concerned.

The further information asked for cannot be supplied by the 18th instant, because it will be necessary to consult Mr. Wrench in the matter.

I am, &c.
(Signed) EDMOND FITZMAURICE.

No. 97.

Earl Granville to Mr. Wyndham.

(No. 141. Commercial.) *Foreign Office, November 15, 1884.*

Sir,

I CAUSED the papers inclosed in your despatch No. 241, Commercial, of the 1st instant, relative to the proposed new duties in Turkey on cotton goods, to be communicated to Sir Joseph Lee, and I now transmit to you, for Mr. Wrench's information and guidance, a copy of the letter which has been received in reply.*

I am, &c.
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 98.

Mr. Wyndham to Earl Granville.—(Received November 20.)

(No. 253. Commercial.) *Constantinople, November 14, 1884.*

My Lord,

WITH reference to my despatch No. 241, Commercial, of the 1st instant, I have the honour to transmit herewith to your Lordship a copy of a further despatch which I have received from Mr. Wrench respecting the new classes of cotton yarns and tissues which it is proposed by his Ottoman colleagues to introduce into chapter 75 of the new Tariff, with a view to the admission, at a nominal rate of 8 per cent., of the goods which are employed by the printers of the country in the production of native printed handkerchiefs.

Specimens of sevaspoors mand ulls coming within the new class are inclosed in Mr. Wrench's despatch.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HUGH WYNDHAM.

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* No. 92.

Inclosure in No. 98.

Consul Wrench to Mr. Wyndham.

Sir, *Constantinople, November 12, 1884.*

IN continuation of my despatch of the 31st ultimo on the subject of the classifications of, and the duties to be levied upon, cotton yarns and tissues, I have now the honour to state that my Ottoman colleagues communicated to me yesterday the new classes they propose to introduce into chapter 75 of the new Tariff, with a view to the admission, at a nominal rate of 8 per cent., of the goods which are employed by the country printers in the production of "kalemkiars," or native-printed handkerchiefs.

These classes are as follows :—

1. "Sevaspoor propre à la fabrication des kalemkiars," upon which a duty of 125 piastres per 100 kilog., equal to 11*s.* 6¾*d.* per cwt., is proposed.

2. Mulls, Tchapali, propres à la fabrication des kalemkiars," upon which a duty of 250 piastres per 100 kilog., equal to 1*l.* 3*s* 1½*d.* per cwt., is proposed.

In order to avoid any misapprehension as to the qualities of the goods which would come within these classes, I obtained from my colleagues the patterns that I have the honour to inclose.

It will be seen that the Ottoman Delegates have decided to describe the goods simply as those appropriate to the manufacture of kalemkiars, and, consequently, to discard all counting of threads and all reference to weight of material. They maintain that this description is the one least likely to give rise to disputes, for the Custom-house officers at the ports near which kalemkiars are made are conversant with the materials required for their manufacture.

The patterns inclosed do not include the commonest qualities of tanjibs (sevaspoors) or of mulls, which do not appear to be used for kalemkiars, and which, therefore, will be very heavily taxed, according to the latest Turkish proposals, at 375 piastres per 100 kilog., equal to 1*l.* 14*s.* 8½*d.* per cwt.

I pointed out this anomaly to my colleagues, who replied that they were fully aware of the fact, but that the value of these low goods being included in the average, compensation would be obtained by the lightness of taxation on the fine qualities of tulles, Victoria lawns, &c., coming under the same category.

I have, &c.
(Signed) WILLIAM H. WRENCH.

No. 99.

Lord E. Fitzmaurice to Sir J. Lee.

Sir, *Foreign Office, November 21, 1884.*

WITH reference to my letter of the 8th instant, I am directed by Earl Granville to transmit to you a further despatch and its inclosures from Mr. Wrench relative to the proposed duties in the new Turkish Tariff on cotton yarns and tissues.*

His Lordship would be glad to receive at your early convenience any observations which you may have to offer on the inclosed papers.

I am, &c.
(Signed) EDMOND FITZMAURICE.

No. 100.

Earl Granville to Mr. Wyndham.

(No. 147. Commercial.)

Sir, *Foreign Office, November 26, 1884.*

I TRANSMIT herewith, for the information and use of Her Majesty's Embassy and of Mr. Wrench, two copies of the volume of last year's Confidential correspondence respecting the revision of the Turkish Tariff.†

I also inclose two further portions of this year's correspondence.‡

* No. 98 and Inclosure. † Confidential No. 4950. ‡ Nos. 1 to 36.

Any Confidential printed papers which may have been sent to Constantinople previously, and are no longer needed, should be carefully destroyed when these duplicate papers are received.

I am, &c.
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 101.

Sir J. Lee to Lord E. Fitzmaurice, M.P.—(*Received November* 28.)

Manchester, November 26, 1881.

My Lord,

IN continuation of my Report of the 11th instant on Chapter 74 (yarns) of the new Turkish Tariff, I now take up Chapter 75 (tissues).

Your Lordship is aware that a correspondence has been passing between Mr. Wrench and myself on this subject. It is quite evident that Mr. Wrench has had no practical assistance from his so-called Committee; these gentlemen do not seem to possess the knowledge to warrant them advising a negotiator on the difficult task of framing a Customs Tariff, and, moreover, they are not sufficiently independent of Turkish influence, the values they have supplied being those of the bazaar, or current in Constantinople.

In calculating the duties for the purpose of framing this Tariff, the Ottoman Commissioners have been guided by values supplied to them by shopkeepers; hence the discrepancy between the values I have given, being those current in Manchester, and the retail values of the bazaars. It is also stated that values must be taken at the port of entry, and not at the place of production; but if this point be conceded, and 10 per cent. be added for freight, charges, and profit, it will not account for the great difference there is between us as to the rate of duty to be charged.

Mr. Wrench has endeavoured to induce the Ottoman Commissioners to place the Tariff on a more equitable basis, agreeable, in fact, to the Report I made on the 31st July last.

My proposal of an alternative Tariff, equal to 15 per cent., has been rejected on the plea of the difficulty of custom-house officers checking the values of goods charged in the invoice. This plea cannot be maintained, as the custom-house would have the right to demand weight duty, which would be an equivalent to 15 per cent. on two-thirds of the goods imported.

The original base, as reported upon by me on the 5th June, is maintained, with the exception of a concession made in the classification of "tangibs," and mulls to be used for "kalemkiars." So far as I understand the proposal, it is not such an one as we could accept; it is as follows:—Tangibs ("sarasproor") are taken out of Category B (1), and made into an extra category, and have to pay 11*s.* 6¾*d.* per cwt., or 10½ per cent. of the value. Mulls ("schapali") are also put into a separate category, and have to pay 1*l.* 3*s.* 1½*d.* per cwt., or 10¾ per cent. of the value; it is claimed that the proposed duty is equal to an *ad valorem* rate of 8 per cent. of the value. If this rate of duty included all the qualities in these categories, we could accept this classification, but it is not so; only those goods used for "kalemkiars" are to be admitted by the custom-house officer at these rates. Should these goods be used for other purposes, they would have to be charged with the duties payable in Category B (1), which in some qualities would be equal to 34 per cent. of the value. The "tangibs" shipped to Ottoman ports consist of qualities ranging from 18 threads to 30 threads on the square quarter of an inch, and are used for "kalemkiars," and may be for other purposes as well; the three qualities attached to the Report count respectively 23, 25, 28 threads on the square quarter of an inch. The mulls also range from 16 threads to 30 threads on the square quarter inch, and the patterns which are attached to the Report count respectively 18, 23, 25, 26, 28, 29 threads on the square quarter of an inch. The Ottoman Commissioners, by making this proposal, ignore all previous precautions; they said they were determined to abolish everything that will lead to difference of opinion between importers and custom-house officers, everything, in fact, that will make supervision difficult and encourage "backsheesh;" and yet by this proposal they open the way for the most corrupt practices, as a merchant would be placed in the unenviable position of having to convince an unwilling official, and the usual result would of necessity follow. I think I have said enough to show that we must demand that these two new categories shall contain all the qualities that are made on the goods, and that there be no restriction as to their use or destination.

I have annexed to this Report a Tariff upon the lines laid down by the Ottoman Commissioners, and in calculating the duties I have added 10 per cent. to the values current in Manchester, so that freight, charges, and profit may be said to be included in my values. I do not think the Turks will again alter the classification, and therefore I suggest that the Tariff as now arranged be accepted, and that Mr. Wrench be instructed that he must obtain some modification in rates of duty, so as to bring the whole Tariff as near as may be an *ad valorem* duty of 8 per cent. on two of the categories and 15 per cent. on the remainder. I have assumed for the purposes of this Tariff that Earl Granville has accepted the *ad valorem* rate above described; therefore the base on which these figures are worked out remains to be proved, and I think in the annexed Tariff the values current in Manchester, with 10 per cent. added, is a fair compromise.

I have placed in the Tariff a column for the suggestion made by me on the 31st July. These rates were taken on the average value of the lowest grades. As the Tariff was intended to be "alternative," an *ad valorem* rate of 15 per cent. would be charged on all goods not reaching that duty if charged by weight. The fourth column is the present suggestion; the values are taken at an average price in proportion to the amount of goods imported. I have affixed to the Tariff some explanations which are of importance.

I have now stated my views on this question, I hope clearly, and so that Earl Granville may define a limit of further concession (if any) to Ottoman proposals, and I trust that the negotiations may be brought to a speedy termination.

I am, &c.
(Signed) JOSEPH C. LEE.

Inclosure in No. 101.

PLAN for New Tariff Goods entering Ottoman Ports.

	Ottoman Proposals.		British, July 31.	British Final, Nov. 27.
	Kilog.	Cwt.	Cwt.	Cwt.
	Piastres.	*s.* *d.*	*s.* *d.*	*s.* *d.*
1. Tous les tissus, à l'exception du velours, façon soie—				
(A.) Écrus, tels que, T-cloth, waste cloth, as described in Ottoman proposal, as charge made ..	135	12 9·95	10 6	12 0
(B.) Blanchis—				
(1.) Gaze, tulle, jaconet, Victoria lawns, et semblables tissus transparents, ainsi que les mêmes tissus transparents écrus	375	31 8·52	25 3	30 4½
(2.) Tous les autres blanchis, with exception of (3), (4), as described in Ottoman proposal	210	19 5·25	13 9	15 0
(3.) New category: Tangibs or Sarasproor, all qualities	125	11 6·75	8 3	9 4½
(4.) New category: Mulls or Schapali, all qualities	250	23 1·50	..	29 2
(C.) (1). Teints ou imprimés, gaze, mull, tulle, mousseline et semblables; tissus transparents, comme kalemkair, lackatan, organdies, &c	570	52 9·12	30 9	50 4
(2.) Tous les autres tissus lisses ou façonnés, comme jaconets, kalemkair, non transparents, étoffes pour doublures, &c. ..	315	29 1·88	21 6	25 10
(D.) Étoffes tissées de fils, teints et imprimés ..	270	24 11·00	19 0	22 6
Section 2. Velours, &c.	600	55 6·44	No change.	
„ 3. Broderies, &c.	1,050	97 2·30	Ditto.	

Explanations.

No. 1. (A.) Écrus.—I have added 10 per cent. to the current values, which, at 15 per cent. *ad valorem*, gives a rate of 12*s.* per cwt.

(B.) (1.) Blanchis.—The average value is taken at 1*s.* 10*d.* per lb.; at 15 per cent.

ad valorem the rate is 1*l.* 10*s.* 4½*d.* per cwt.; the lowest fabric in this class costs 1*s.* 2*d.* per lb., which, at 15 per cent. *ad valorem*, gives a rate of 19*s.* 6*d.* per cwt.

(B.) (2.) The average value is taken at 11*d.* per lb., which, at 15 per cent. *ad valorem*, gives a rate of 15*s.* per cwt.; the lowest fabric shipped costs 7*d.* per lb., and 70 per cent. of the entire shipment is under 10*d.* per lb. These are the same goods as in "No. 1 (A.) Ecrus." If we add 10 per cent. upon the average values and 10 per cent. for bleaching, the rate would be 14*s.* 6*d.* per cwt., so my figures for this class are proved reasonable.

(B.) (3.) The average of all qualities of tangibs is 1*s.* 0½*d.* per lb., which, at 8 per cent. *ad valorem*, gives a rate of 9*s.* 4½*d.* per cwt. All the qualities are used for kalemkairs, but may be used for other purposes.

(B.) (4.) I have taken the average value of these goods for three years, and find it to be 1*s.* 10*d.* per lb. If taken at 2*s* 3*d.* per lb., the *ad valorem* of 15 per cent. will be 1*l.* 0*s.* 2*d.* per cwt. As in "tangibs," all the qualities are used for "kalemkiars," but may be used for other purposes.

In these categories, (B.) (3.) and (B.) (4.), "tangibs" and mulls, samples of these are annexed to Mr. Wrench's Report. Pieces of these goods should be procured and keeps for reference in case of any dispute.

(C.) (1.) I take out the word "jaconets," as the term is misleading. I understand this class to be all transparent tissues, printed or dyed. If the value be taken at 3*s.* per lb., the rate of 15 per cent. *ad valorem* will be 2*l.* 10*s.* 4*d.* per cwt.

(C.) (2.) I insert the words "mouchoirs," or handkerchiefs, and also jaconets and "kalemkiars" not transparent tissues. The best class of dyed and printed goods cost 1*s.* 9½*d.* per lb.; at 15 per cent. *ad valorem* the rate will be 30*s.* per cwt.; 30 per cent. of these goods are shipped: the average of the lowest class is 1*s.* 1*d.* per lb.; 70 per cent. of this class are shipped. If the average be taken at 1*s.* 6½*d.* per lb., the rate would be 25*s.* 10*d.* per cwt.

This is the next important class to No. 1 (A.) Ecrus. (B.) (2.), (3.), (4.), are the next.

(D.) Section 1.—I take the value at 1*s.* 4*d.* per lb., which represents goods from 11½*d.* to 1*s.* 8*d.* per lb., 80 per cent. being shipped from 11½*d.* to 1*s.* 2*d.* At 15 per cent. *ad valorem* the rate is 1*l.* 2*s.* 6*d.* per cwt.

Section 2.—Velours, façon soie. No change.

Section 3.—Broderies, agreeable to the explanation made in Procès-verbal No. 36.

(Signed) JOSEPH C. LEE.

No. 102.

Sir J. Lee to Lord E. Fitzmaurice.—(*Received November 28.*)

56, *Mosley Street, Manchester, November* 27, 1884.

Dear Lord E. Fitzmaurice,

I HAVE sent you, by this post, the review on the Turkish Tariff (cottons). I think if Mr. Wrench were told definitely what he might accept, he would be able to finish the business in a couple of sittings.

Could you let me know what are the Ottoman proposals on Dundee goods? Some of our merchants are anxious about the rate; as when Mr. Wrench was here and got values things have changed very much—either the goods can be manufactured cheaper, or no demand for them. The fact remains that values on Dundee goods are 20 per cent. lower than they were twelve months ago.

I am, &c.

(Signed) J. C. LEE.

No. 103.

Mr. Wyndham to Earl Granville.—(*Received November 29.*)

(No. 263. Commercial.)

Constantinople, November 25, 1884.

My Lord,

WITH reference to your Lordship's despatch No. 141, Commercial, of the 15th instant, I have the honour to transmit to you herewith a copy of a despatch

from Mr. Wrench respecting the proposed duties in the new Turkish Tariff on cotton goods.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HUGH WYNDHAM.

Inclosure in No. 103.

Consul Wrench to Mr. Wyndham.

Sir,

Constantinople, November 22, 1884.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch of yesterday's date respecting the proposed duties in the new Turkish Tariff on cotton goods, and inclosing, for my information and guidance, a letter from Sir Joseph Lee of the 11th instant. I understand this communication as a tacit authority for my acceptance of the chapter No. 74 of the new Tariff "cotton yarns," which forms the Annex to the 34th *procès-verbal* of the Commission, and shall consequently inform my Ottoman colleagues at next Tuesday's sitting that I agree to the said Annex. This action on my part will not compromise the condition laid down in the first *procès-verbal* of the Tariff Commission, under which Her Majesty's Government reserves to itself the right of definitively accepting or not the result of my negotiations.

Sir Joseph Lee's letter does not appear to call for any special remarks on my part. I would, however, observe, with reference to the last paragraph, that Mr. Whittall's letter does not express his personal opinions, but those of the Committee over which he presides. This Committee is composed of the principal merchant importers of Manchester goods.

I have, &c.

(Signed) WILLIAM H. WRENCH.

No. 104.

Mr. Wyndham to Earl Granville.—(*Received November* 29.)

(No. 264. Commercial.)

Constantinople, November 25, 1884.

My Lord,

WITH reference to your Lordship's despatch No. 140, Commercial, of the 14th instant, I have the honour to inclose a despatch from Mr. Wrench containing a Memorandum on the subject of the duties to be paid under the new Turkish Tariff upon silk and iron.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HUGH WYNDHAM.

Inclosure 1 in No. 104.

Consul Wrench to Mr. Wyndham.

Sir,

Constantinople, November 24, 1884.

I HAVE had the honour to receive your despatch of the 21st instant instructing me to prepare, for the information of the Bradford Chamber of Commerce, a Memorandum on the subject of the duties to be paid, under the new Turkish Tariff, on silk and on iron.

Herewith I beg leave to transmit a Memorandum on the silk duties and another on the iron duties.

I have, &c.

(Signed) WILLIAM H. WRENCH.

Inclosure 2 in No. 104.

Memorandum respecting Silk.

In the new Turkish Tariff silk forms the subject-matter of the 80th, 81st, and 82nd chapters.

Chapter 80 treats of cocoons and raw silk, and is as follows:—

Dénomination des Marchandises.	Unité.	Droit, piastres or.*	Tares.		
			Caisses et Futailles.	Paniers.	Balles.
			Pour cent.	Pour cent.	Pour cent.
1. Cocons de vers à soie non percés	100 kilog.	240	20	13	9
Bourre de soie, frisons, cocons percés, et autres déchets—					
2 (*a.*) En masse, teints ou non teints ..	"	160	16	11	6
3 (*b.*) Peignés, teints ou non teints ..	"	320			
4. Soie brute (grège et moulinée)	"	800			

The above taxes are calculated to represent, roughly speaking, 8 per cent. on average values on the wharf at Constantinople. In so far as they interest the Bradford trade they will, I think, be considered satisfactory, and I have accepted them after some discussion and reductions.

Chapter 81 deals with silk thread, and reads as under:—

Dénomination des Marchandises.	Unité.	Droit, piastres or.	Tares.		
			Caisses et Futailles.	Paniers.	Balles.
			Pour cent.	Pour cent.	Pour cent.
Soie blanche ou teinte; soie filée ou retorsée teinte ou non teinte (soie à coudre, à broder et autres); fils de soie simples ou retors, teints ou non teints	100 kilog.	1,200	16	11	6

The above classification differs from that presented to me in July of last year, and communicated to the Chambers of Commerce. The change arises from the difficulty for a Turkish Custom-house officer to distinguish between thread of silk and of waste silk, and from a desire to avoid the inconvenience to commerce that would be caused by the unpacking and testing the thread that arrive in the same package. The tax, although somewhat above 8 per cent. for waste silk yarns, is exceedingly moderate for other qualities. Upon the whole, it is not calculated, in my opinion, to have an unfavourable effect on trade, and it has therefore been accepted by me.

Chapter 82 is devoted to silk tissues. My proposal for *ad valorem* duties on silks has not been accepted by my Ottoman colleagues. The duties in this chapter have, however, been set down at a 12 per cent. nominal duty on the average of values, instead of a 15 per cent. duty, as in the chapters affecting other tissues. I have not as yet entered into the discussion of values or of the categories contained in this chapter. I have, however, forwarded a copy of it to Mr. Kennedy at the Foreign Office, and he is now submitting it to the Chambers of Commerce interested in the silk trade. The one item, "Cordonnets noirs, &c.," formerly formed part of the preceding chapter, and as the duty has been fixed at 12 per cent. instead of "up to 20 per cent.," and is assessed at a value below that given me by the Bradford Chamber, I have accepted it. No modification of the text, as it now stands, could be made with regard to "Cordonnets."

* 110 piastres = 1*l.*

The following are the Ottoman proposals for this chapter:—

Dénomination des Marchandises.	Unité.	Droit, piastres or.	Tares.		
			Caisses et Futailles.	Paniers.	Balles.
			Pour cent.	Pour cent.	Pour cent.
Gaze étamine et crêpe—					
1 (*a.*) De soie pure	100 kilog.	9,600			
2 (*b.*) De soie mélangée	"	2,400			
3. Tulle de soie pure ou mélangée ..	"	3,000			
Velours et rubans de velours—					
4 (*a.*) En soie	"	5,100			
5 (*b.*) Autres contenant de la soie ..	"	2,400			
Tissus lisses, croisés ou brochés ainsi que rubans tissés—					
6 (*a.*) De soie ou de bourre de soie, même combinés avec des fils métalliques ..	"	3,600	22	..	13
7 (*b.*) De fils de soie ou de bourre de soie, mêlés de fils d'autres matières textiles, même combinés avec des fils métalliques	"	1,500			
8. Tissus de soie ou de bourre de soie pure ou mélangée, brodée ou avec applications	"	4,200			
9. Dentelles de soie dites blondes; dentelles en soie pure ou mélangée ou combinée avec des fils métalliques ..	"	5,100			
10. Bonneterie en soie ou bourre de soie, telle que: chemises, bas, gants, et autres tricotages	"	3,900			
11. Cordonnets noirs pour puseuls, et puseuls confectionnés avec ces cordonnets ..	"	600	16	11	6
12. Passementerie de soie ou bourre de soie même en combinaison avec des fils métalliques ténus (franges, bordures, treillis, tresses, chenilles, cordons, &c.), passementerie et boutonnerie de soie ou de bourre de soie combinés avec du bois, corne, exentchouc, &c., tels que boutons, glands revêtus de soie ou de bourre de soie	"	1,500	22	..	13

(Signed) WILLIAM H. WRENCH.

Constantinople, November 22, 1884.

Inclosure 3 in No. 104.

Memorandum respecting Iron.

IN the new Turkish Tariff, chapters 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, and 41 are devoted to iron and articles made of iron and steel.

Chapter 36 consists of but one article which is not of interest to British trade, "Minerais de fer." It is taxed at 8 per cent. in $\frac{80}{100}$ths of a piastre per 100 kilog. No tare is deducted.

Chapter 37 is composed as follows:—

Matériaux Bruts de Fer.

Dénomination des Marchandises.	Unité.	Droit, piastres or.*
		Pcs. c.
1. Débris de vieux ouvrages en fer ou en acier, limailles et copeaux	100 kilog. ..	3 20
2. Fonte de toute espèce	" ..	3 20
3. Fer en loupe et en lingots	" ..	4 80
4. Acier brut, fondu, affiné, ou en barres	" ..	14 40

Note.—110 piastres = £1.

* Point de tare.

Chapter 38 is as follows:—

FABRICATS INCOMPLETS DE FER.

Dénomination des Marchandises.	Unité.	Droit, piastres or.*
		Pcs. c.
1. Fers en barres, ronds, carrés; fer en bottes à angle (fer à coude) fers à [T, I, et semblables; fils de fer	100 kilog.	7 60
2. Rails pour chemin de fer en fer ou en acier	"	10 00
3. Fils de fer cuivrés, étamés, zingués, plombés	"	26 60
4. Fils d'acier		
5. Fer pour soc de charrue; tôle et plaque de fer brute, même vernis au vernis commun; cercles en fer et lames pour cercles	"	10 00
Tôle et plaques d'acier—		16 60
6. (*a.*) Brute	"	24 00
7. (*b.*) Polie		
8. Fer blanc et tôle étamée; autre tôle et plaque de fer ou d'acier, vernie, cuivrée, zinguée, plombée, nickelée	"	16 60

Chapter 39 consists of:—

OUVRAGES TRÈS GROSSIERS EN FER OU FONTE.

Dénomination des Marchandises.	Unité.	Droit, piastres or.*
		Pcs. c.
1. Ancres et chaînes d'ancre et de navire	100 kilog.	16 00
2. Câbles de fil de fer	"	24 00
3. Tuyaux et tubes en fer forgé, laminé ou étiré, y compris les pièces de raccord	"	24 00
4. Ouvrages très grossiers en fonte, même vernissés au vernis commun, et lors même qu'il s'y trouve des parties de fer forgé servant uniquement à l'assemblage ou lorsqu'il y entre du bois, tels que fourneaux, plaques façonnés, grilles, tuyaux, et tubes en fonte	"	12 00

* Point de taxe.

Note.—110 piastres = £1.

Chapters 40 and 41, which consist respectively of "ouvrages grossiers en fer ou acier, non polis, ni vernis au vernis fin" and "articles fins en fer," have formed the subject of prolonged discussion. I closed the negotiations on Tuesday last, the 18th instant, but have not yet received the official copies of these chapters. They now (together with the above) have been accepted by me, and will be forwarded as soon as received from the Secretary of the Commission.

The taxes given above are at the rate of 8 per cent. on average values on the wharf at Constantinople, with the exception of articles 3 and 4 of chapter 39, which are at a nominal rate of 12 per cent.

It would occupy too much space to enter here into the details of the negotiations respecting the taxes on the articles mentioned above; suffice it to say (1) that I have obtained substantial reductions in the taxes that the Ottoman Delegates hoped to obtain on nearly one-half of the articles enumerated, by reducing the values as nearly as possible to those given me by Chambers of Commerce in England; (2) that when I have been obliged to give way on one point in order to gain another, I have notified the fact to my Belgian colleague, who will before long commence negotiations, and who will strive to obtain reductions where I have failed; (3) that the above classifications and taxes, even if the European Delegates, who have yet to discuss them, should fail to obtain any modifications, are not calculated to prejudice British trade.

(Signed) WILLIAM H. WRENCH.

Constantinople, November 24, 1884.

No. 105.

Earl Granville to Mr. Wyndham.

(No. 148. Commercial.)

Sir, *Foreign Office, December* 1, 1884.

I CAUSED the Report from Mr. Wrench, relative to the proposed duties on cotton goods in the new Turkish Tariff, which accompanied your despatch No. 253, Commercial, of the 14th ultimo, to be referred to Sir Joseph Lee, and I now transmit to you, to be communicated to Mr. Wrench, for his information and guidance, a copy of the letter which has been received from Sir Joseph Lee in reply,* advising further as to proposed new duties on cotton goods in the Turkish Tariff.

I will cause Mr. Wrench's Report, inclosed in your despatch No. 263, Commercial, of the 25th ultimo, to be likewise referred to Sir Joseph Lee.

I am, &c.

(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 106.

Earl Granville to Mr. Wyndham.

(No. 150. Commercial.)

Sir, *Foreign Office, December* 2, 1884.

I TRANSMIT herewith copies of correspondence with Sir Joseph Lee relative to duties on jute goods in the proposed new Turkish Tariff;† and I have to request that you will obtain a Memorandum on the subject from Mr. Wrench for communication to Sir Joseph Lee.

I am, &c.

(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 107.

Earl Granville to Mr. Wyndham.

(No. 151. Commercial.)

Sir, *Foreign Office, December* 2, 1884.

WITH reference to my preceding despatch, I have to observe that Mr. Wrench will now have before him in a complete shape the advice given by Sir Joseph Lee with respect to duties on cotton yarns and piece-goods in the new Turkish Tariff. In the event of his not being able to obtain the assent of the Ottoman Delegates to all the recommendations made on behalf of Manchester trade, I should be glad to receive a Report (which will be complete in itself without referring to previous Reports), showing to what extent these recommendations have been adopted, and the difference existing in other respects between the Ottoman proposals in their last stage and the recommendations referred to. I shall also be glad to learn Mr. Wrench's opinion of the importance and value of the branches of British trade, with respect to which difference of this nature may exist.

I am, &c.

(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 108.

Lord E. Fitzmaurice to Sir J. Lee.

Sir, *Foreign Office, December* 2, 1884.

I AM directed by Earl Granville to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 26th ultimo, and to convey to you his Lordship's thanks for the very complete advice with respect to the duties on cotton yarns and piece-goods in the proposed new Turkish Tariff which is contained in this letter and in your previous communication of the 11th ultimo. These papers will place Mr. Wrench in full possession of the recommendations now made on behalf of Manchester trade with Turkey.

* No. 101. † Nos. 102 and 103.

I forward at the same time, for your information and any further remarks which you may have to offer, a Report from Mr. Wrench relative to your letter of the 11th ultimo.*

I am, &c.
(Signed) EDMOND FITZMAURICE.

No. 109.

Lord E. Fitzmaurice to Sir J. Lee.

Foreign Office, December 2, 1884.

Sir,

IN reply to your letter of the 27th ultimo, I am directed by Earl Granville to state that his Lordship has not yet received in a complete form the duties proposed for jute goods in the new Turkish Tariff.

A copy of your letter will be forwarded to Mr. Wyndham. This part of the new Tariff is being settled in communication with the Dundee Chamber of Commerce; but a Memorandum on the present stage of the negotiations relative to it will be obtained for your information.

I am, &c.
(Signed) EDMOND FITZMAURICE.

No. 110.

Lord E. Fitzmaurice to Sir J. Behrens.

Foreign Office, December 2, 1884.

Sir,

WITH reference to the letter from this Office of the 14th ultimo, I am now directed by Earl Granville to transmit to you, to be laid before the Bradford Chamber of Commerce, two Memoranda which have been prepared by Mr. Wrench, Her Majesty's Consul at Constantinople,† containing information as applied for in your letter, dated the 11th November, respecting the duties to be paid under the new Turkish Tariff on silk and on iron.

The return of these papers is requested when done with.

I am, &c.
(Signed) EDMOND FITZMAURICE.

No. 111.

Mr. Wyndham to Earl Granville.—(Received December 3.)

(No. 262. Commercial.)
My Lord,

Constantinople, November 24, 1884.

WITH reference to Lord Dufferin's despatch to your Lordship No. 190, Commercial, of the 2nd September, I have the honour to inclose copy of a note from the Sublime Porte, in which it is explained that the reduction in the value of the silver Medjidieh from 20 to 19 piastres does not place the British merchant in a position of disadvantage as compared with his French and Austrian rivals.

I would propose, subject to your Lordship's sanction, instructing those of Her Majesty's Consuls who have addressed complaints to me on this subject—viz., Mr. Consul-General Fawcett, of Constantinople; Mr. Consul-General Plowden, of Bagdad; and Mr. Vice-Consul Maling, of the Dardanelles—that the payment of the Medjidieh at 19 piastres is one of the consequences of the temporary adoption of the 8 per cent. *ad valorem* system, which has proved of considerable benefit to English trade, and that pending the negotiations respecting the commercial relations between England and Turkey, which are at the present moment in a transitory state, it is advisable not to press this particular question further upon the notice of the Sublime Porte.

I understand, moreover, that no other Power had till now protested against this arrangement on the part of the Turkish Custom-house, and I may mention to your Lordship that it is similar to that which obtains as to goods sent by sea from one

* Inclosure in No. 103.

† Inclosure in No. 104.

Ottoman port to another, in which case duties are levied at the rate of 8 per cent. *ad valorem*, the Medjidieh being taken at 19 piastres.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HUGH WYNDHAM.

Inclosure in No. 111.

Assim Pasha to Mr. Wyndham.

M. le Chargé d'Affaires,

Sublime Porte, le 5 Octobre, 1884.

J'AI eu l'honneur de recevoir la note de l'Ambassade de Sa Majesté Britannique en date du 2 Septembre, relative aux plaintes formulées par les négociants Anglais de Smyrne contre la perception par les autorités Douanières de cette ville du Médjidié d'argent à raison de 19 piastres.

L'Administration Générale des Contributions Indirectes, à laquelle cette pièce avait été communiquée, fait observer que les griefs des négociants susmentionnés sont mal fondés, attendu que la différence du traitement dont ils se plaignent est plutôt apparante que réelle. En effet, si d'un côté le commerçant Austro-Hongrois ou Français paie, en vertu du Traité de Commerce de son pays encore en vigueur, le droit de douane à raison du 20 piastres le Médjidié sur une marchandise qui a par exemple la valeur de 100 piastres, le négociant Anglais de l'autre n'acquitte ce droit à 19 piastres le Médjidié que parce que la Douane estime cette même marchandise pour lui à 95 piastres, c'est-à-dire, qu'elle base son estimation en calculant le Médjidié à 19 piastres.

Je suis donc persuadé que vous voudrez bien convenir, dans votre appréciation éclairée, que ce mode de perception, qui est adopté dans l'intérêt d'une comptabilité uniforme, ne met nullement les négociants Anglais dans une position défavorable vis-à-vis du commerce Français ou Autrichien.

Agréez, &c.
(Signé) M. ASSIM.

No. 112.

Mr. Wyndham to Earl Granville.—(Received December 3.)

(No. 267. Commercial.)
My Lord,

Constantinople, November 26, 1884.

WITH reference to my despatch No. 262, Commercial, of the 24th instant, in which I request your Lordship's instructions with regard to the silver Medjidieh being now received by the custom-houses in Turkey at the rate of 19 piastres instead of 20 piastres, as fixed by the Commercial Treaty of 1861, I have the honour to call your Lordship's attention to the fact that the reception by the Ottoman custom-houses of the silver Medjidieh under the new Commercial Tariff now being negotiated is a question of some importance.

In the several communications addressed by the Porte to the different Embassies and Legations respecting the new Tariff, it is mentioned that the duties will be payable in gold piastres, and this has naturally given rise to the idea that the custom-houses may refuse payments tendered in the silver subdivisions of the Turkish lira, or may accept such payments at some arbitrary rate of exchange.

The question attracted the attention of the merchants of Manchester on the occasion of the visit paid to that city by Messrs. Kennedy and Wrench in 1883, and a statement of the merchants' views on the subject appears in the Annex to Report of Messrs. Kennedy and Wrench of the 11th October, 1883, at pp. 12 and 13.

Now that Mr. Wrench is approaching the close of his negotiations at the custom-house, I would propose, subject to your Lordship's approval, endeavouring to ascertain, by a note to the Porte, the views entertained by the Ottoman Government with reference to this question.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HUGH WYNDHAM.

No. 113.

Sir J. Lee to Lord E. Fitzmaurice.—(*Received December 4.*)

56, *Mosley Street, Manchester, December* 3, 1884.

My Lord,

I BEG to acknowledge your letter of yesterday's date. I am glad to find that my Report has been of use to Earl Granville. I return herewith Mr. Wrench's letter of the 22nd ultimo; it calls for no further remarks from me, the subject having been fully treated in my Report of the 26th ultimo.

I am, &c.
(Signed) J. O. LEE.

No. 114.

Earl Granville to Mr. Wyndham.

(No. 152. Commercial.)

Foreign Office, December 5, 1884.

Sir,

I HAVE had under my consideration your despatch No. 267, Commercial, of the 26th ultimo, further relating to the question of the silver Medjidieh being received at the Ottoman custom-houses at the rate of 19 piastres instead of 20 piastres; and I have now to authorize you to proceed in this matter, as suggested in your despatch.

I am, &c.
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 115.

Mr. Sturrock to Mr. Kennedy.—(*Received December* 8.)

Chamber of Commerce, Dundee, December 5, 1884.

Dear Sir,

WITH reference to yours of the 29th ultimo, the Memorandum from Mr. Wrench regarding the Turkish Tariff has been seen by the Directors. They are glad to learn that Mr. Wrench has been successful in getting the duties on jute yarns and on packing cloth reduced. The classification, also, in connection with jute carpeting, is very distinct.

The Directors are satisfied that Mr. Wrench has conducted this business with great zeal and knowledge, and that the utmost has been done for the Dundee trade. I am directed to express this to you, and will feel obliged by your making this known to Mr. Wrench.

Thanking you likewise for the great interest you have taken, I am, &c.
(Signed) ROBT. STURROCK, *Secretary.*

P.S.—Memorandum now returned. R. S.

Inclosure in No. 115.

Memorandum respecting Jute.

IN chapter 77 of new Turkish Tariff jute yarns were classed with those of hemp and flax at a duty of 40 piastres per 100 kilog.

I reserved this question, and adverted to it at meeting of 18th November, when I obtained a separate class as follows: "Fils grossiers de jute," tax 25 piastres per 100 kilog.

In chapter 79 the first class read: "Couvertures et tapis grossiers de jute," and the tax was fixed at 90 piastres.

I endeavoured to obtain a reduction of this tax, but did not succeed. I obtained, however, a change in the text as follows: "Couvertures grossières et tapis de pied de jute, de chanvre, de manille, de fibre de coco, ou de fibres analogues;" and thus no doubt can now arise as to all the wide varieties of jute carpeting now being manufactured coming within the above class.

The article, "Toile grise d'emballage avec ou sans raies et sacs confectionnés avec la dite toile," was taxed at 48 piastres.

In the meeting mentioned above I obtained a reduction to 40 piastres.

The other items affecting jute remain as already communicated.

Tare, on yarns, chapter 77, is 13 per cent. if in cases or "barils," 9 per cent. if in baskets, and 6 per cent. if in bales.

On tissues, chapter 79, the same rates of tare, as far as jute is concerned.

In my opinion, the duties fixed for jute goods are now as favourable as can be obtained in a specific Tariff.

I imagine these taxes will not affect the importations.

Constantinople, November 24, 1884. (Signed) WILLIAM H. WRENCH.

No. 116.

*Mr. Spice to Mr. Kennedy.**—(*Received December* 9.)

Incorporated Chamber of Commerce, Royal Exchange, Leeds, December 8, 1884.

Dear Sir,

I AM desired by the President to forward you copies of the Report of the Yorkshire Chambers on the paper of suggestions on woollens for new Turkish Tariff, which you handed to him at Wolverhampton.

I also inclose copies of the Statement made last year to yourself and Mr. Wrench, referred to in the Report.

I remain, &c.
(Signed) T. W. SPICE, *Secretary.*

Inclosure 1 in No. 116.

TURKISH TARIFF.

Woollen and Worsted Tissues.

AT a meeting of delegates from the Chambers of Commerce of Batley, Bradford, Cleckheaton, Dewsbury, Halifax, Heckmondwike, Huddersfield, Leeds, Morley, and Wakefield, held at Leeds on the 26th September, 1883, to confer with Mr. C. M. Kennedy, C.B., and Mr. W. H. Wrench, Her Britannic Majesty's Consul at Constantinople, the following recommendations and suggestions were made:—

1. The classification and nomenclature proposed in the "Statement respecting the new Turkish Tariff" is complicated and objectionable. Many articles are enumerated under names more or less arbitrary, and some of them obsolete, and the very details of the nomenclature are productive of confusion by the omissions they suggest. The terms "foulé" and "non-foulé" are no longer practicable for distinction, nor is it possible to draw the line between "drap grossier" and "drap fin." It is desirable that a distinction be drawn between "pure wool" and "mixed fabrics," on account of the difference of their average values; but the latter cannot be accurately described as "tissues with cotton warps" ("étoffes chaîne coton"), for in many mixed fabrics the warp is not wholly cotton, but contains an admixture of wool, either carded with the cotton or in separate threads, and such mixture might be interpreted as rendering them liable to the higher duty. There are also some goods, usually classed as "pure wool," containing a very small proportion of cotton or other vegetable fibre, introduced for effect or facility in working, which it would be evidently unjust to declare as "mixed fabrics." The percentage of vegetable fibre contained in any woollen tissues is easily ascertainable, in case of dispute, by a simple chemical process. In order, therefore, to simplify as much as possible the work of the Turkish Customs, and minimize disputes between the administration and importers, the Chambers recommend the adoption of the following simple classification, in lieu of the greater number of articles enumerated in paragraph 85, viz.:—

(*a.*) Tissues composed of wool or other animal fibre not elsewhere classified, pure, or containing not more than 5 per cent. in weight of cotton or other vegetable fibre, to be classed as "pure wool goods;" and

* Acknowledged and copy to Mr. Wrench, December 9.

(*b.*) Tissues composed of wool or other animal fibre not elsewhere classified, and containing more than 5 per cent. in weight of cotton or other vegetable fibre, the wool or other animal fibre predominating, to be classed as "mixed wool goods."

It is proposed to include in the above classification all the articles mentioned in paragraph 85, except—

"Châles véritables de cachemir" down to "châles en poil de chèvre tissés uni et jusqu'à deux couleurs;"

"Tapis à nœuds" down to "dentelles;" and

"Tissus en crins" down to "dentelles de crins."

A separate classification is suggested for "feutres" and "tissus de poil (de veau, de chien, de chamois, et d'autres poils semblables), pur ou mélangé," as being of lower average value per pound than the "mixed fabrics" above alluded to. Suggestions as to the classification of carpets ("tapis") and the duties thereon will be furnished in a separate paper by the Chambers interested in them.

2. Her Majesty's Government having assented in principle to the adoption of specific duties on textiles, it only remains to indicate the categories under which woollen tissues should be classed. It is found that the "mixed fabrics" intended for women's wear, commonly known as Bradford dress stuffs, weigh under 200 grammes per square metre, and have an average value of 2*s.* 6*d.* per lb., while those intended for men's apparel, produced in the other Yorkshire districts, weigh over 200 grammes per square metre, and average 1*s.* 3*d.* per lb. "All-wool goods" may be similarly divided, although having a higher average value. The Chambers therefore recommend that each of the above classes (*a*) and (*b*) be divided into two categories, thus:—

Woollen goods—
(*a*) 1. Up to 200 grammes per square metre.
2. Above 200 " "

Mixed goods—
(*b*.) 1. Up to 200 " "
2. Above 200 " "

3. Assuming that the new specific duties be fixed on the basis of the present *ad valorem* duty of 8 per cent. (any higher rate would be "detrimental" to trade), the Chambers suggest the following conversion as practically the equivalent, viz.:—

All-wool goods—			
Up to 200 grammes per square metre	.. ..	.. ..	.. 70 fr. per 100 kilos.
Above 200 " "	.. ..	.. ..	.. 95 fr. " "
Mixed fabrics—			
Up to 200 " "	.. ..	.. ..	.. 50 fr. "
Above 200 " "	.. ..	.. ..	.. 25 fr. "

Note.—In case the duties proposed on goods weighing over 200 grammes per square metre be such as unduly to tax British exports to Turkey, which consist chiefly of low-priced heavy mixed woollens, it might be desirable to insist on another category of goods weighing over 350 grammes per square metre, to pay a lower duty than those from 200 to 350 grammes per square metre. And if a further category be desirable for a similar reason the limit should be fixed at 500 grammes per square metre, with a still lower duty for all goods over that weight. But these subdivisions would only be acceptable on condition of securing a rate of duty not exceeding 25 fr. per 100 kilog. (1*d.* per lb.) on the heaviest class of "mixed woollens." Attention is called to the fact that the bulk of the woollen exports to Turkey consists of "mixed woollens" weighing over 500 grammes per square metre, and, as stated above, not exceeding the value of 1*s.* 3*d.* per lb. The same weight categories might be fixed for "all-wool goods" as for "mixed fabrics," but there is grave objection to a multiplication of categories, as tending to disputes between importers and the customs, and as opening a door to frauds.

It is understood that all specific duties will be levied upon the net weight of the goods.

4. It is strongly recommended that the new Treaty should recognize Chambers of Commerce as an authority for determining any dispute between an importer and the Ottoman Customs, by including a provision that such dispute shall be referred to the Chamber of Commerce of the producing district, whose decision, given under seal, shall be binding upon both parties.

Note.—It is to be observed that in the Treaties recently concluded with Servia and Montenegro this recognition is, in part, accorded to Chambers of Commerce.

5. It is suggested for the protection of pending contracts that six (or at least three) months' notice be given before the new Tariff comes into operation.

(Signed) JOHN MARSHALL, *President of the Leeds Incorporated Chamber of Commerce, Chairman.*

Incorporated Chamber of Commerce, Royal Exchange,
Leeds, October 1, 1883.

Inclosure 2 in No. 116.

TURKISH TARIFF.

Woollen and Worsted Tissues.

AT a meeting of delegates from the Chambers of Commerce of Batley, Birstal, Bradford, Cleckheaton, Dewsbury, Huddersfield, Leeds, Morley, and Wakefield, held at Leeds on the 19th November, 1884, to consider a Paper (new Turkish Tariff, paragraph 85), received through the Foreign Office, from Mr. W. H. Wrench, Her Britannic Majesty's Consul at Constantinople, containing suggestions of the Turkish Commissioners as to duties to be levied on woollen goods, under the new Turkish Tariff, the following Report was unanimously agreed upon:—

1. *Rates of Duty.*—The raising of the duty to 15 per cent. on the "average value" of the various articles enumerated, or to nearly double the duty at present in force, would be highly detrimental to trade, and likely to result in a serious falling off in the exports of Turkey. But whatever may be said in favour of a 15 per cent. duty generally, the suggested duty of 18 per cent. on "mixed woollen" goods is entirely inadmissible, as it would practically be a differential duty levied on British goods alone. Other countries are but little interested in this class; it is England alone that produces "cotton warp" goods in any considerable quantity; and, as has frequently been shown, the bulk of her woollen exports to Turkey consists of "mixed goods" coming under this class.

2. *Average Values.*—The classes of goods produced in this district are mainly included in the first, fifth, and sixth items of Mr. Wrench's Paper.

The first item deals with army cloths; and, seeing that "all-wool" and "cotton warp" articles are grouped together, the valuation of 1,200 piastres per 100 kilog. is not unreasonable.

The fifth item deals with "all-wool" tissues, the average value of which is set down at 5,000 piastres per 100 kilog. It is considered that this valuation is excessive, and that it should not exceed that of pure wool flannels, viz., 4,250 piastres per 100 kilog. If that cannot be obtained, the Chamber would suggest as an alternative that goods under this class be divided into two categories, with different valuations, viz.:

Goods up to 200 grammes per square metre	.. ..	.. ..	.. 5,000 pcs. per 100 kilog.
Goods above 200 " "	.. ..	.. ..	.. 4,500 pcs. "

The sixth item is that which mostly concerns the trade of this district; and here the Chambers have only to confirm the recommendations they made when Mr. Kennedy, C.B., and Mr. Wrench met them in Leeds on the 26th September in last year, and which are contained in Article II of the printed statement placed in their hands. It was stated "that the 'mixed fabrics' intended for women's wear, commonly known as Bradford dress stuffs, weigh under 200 grammes per square metre, and have an average value of 2*s.* 6*d.* per lb.; while those intended for men's apparel, produced in the other Yorkshire districts, weigh over 200 grammes per square metre, and average 1*s.* 3*d.* per lb." The value set down for all "mixed woollens" is 2,500 piastres per 100 kilog., or nearly 2*s.* 1*d.* per lb., which is considerably higher than the average of the above two values, and would press very unjustly upon the "mixed woollens" for men's wear, which form the bulk (in weight) of the total exports to Turkey under this class. The Chambers strongly urge that this class be divided into two categories—goods weighing under 200 grammes per square metre and those weighing over, and they suggest the following average values as a basis for fixing the specific duties, viz.:—

Goods up to 200 grammes per square metre	.. ..	.. ..	.. 3,000 pcs. per 100 kilog.
Goods above 200 " "	.. ..	.. ..	.. 1,500 pcs. "

The Chambers call attention to the fact that in the new Greek Tariff, which has recently come into operation, "mixed woollens" are classed precisely in this manner.

3. *Definition.*—The Chambers can only repeat and endorse the statements made and the argument(s used on this subject to Messrs. Kennedy and Wrench on the occasion above alluded to, which are contained in Article I of the Paper then furnished to them. Especially do they object to the use simply of the words "cotton warp" ("chaîne coton") as defining "mixed woollens," in distinction from those which are "all-wool," for many "union" goods are now manufactured having cotton yarns in the weft instead of in the warp, and under the proposed definition such goods will have to pay the higher duties imposed on "all-wool" goods. If the recommendation as to the simplification of classification and nomenclature made to Messrs. Kennedy and Wrench cannot be adopted in full, the Chambers would strongly urge the substitution of the words "having cotton threads in warp or weft" ("ayant fils de coton en chaîne ou en trame") for the words "cotton warp" ("chaîne coton"), which is not a correct description of "mixed woollens."

In the new Greek Tariff, "mixed woollens" are thus described—"Tissues of a like sort as per above class (all wool) having the warp or woof entirely or most of cotton." The Chambers would not object to a similar definition in the new Turkish Tariff, but they think the suggestion they make above would be more likely to meet with the approval of the Turkish Custom-house authorities.

4. *Tare.*—The allowance of 20 per cent. on gross weight for cases seems fair, but 7 per cent. for bales is found to be too little. Careful examination and inquiry show that the allowance for bales should not be less than 10 per cent.

(Signed) JOHN MARSHALL, *President of the Leeds Incorporated Chamber of Commerce, Chairman.*

Incorporated Chamber of Commerce, Leeds, December 8, 1884.

No. 117.

Mr. Wyndham to Earl Granville.—(*Received December* 17.)

(No. 268. Commercial.) *Constantinople, December* 2, 1884.

My Lord,

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch No. 147, Commercial, of the 26th instant, and to report that I have duly forwarded to Mr. Wrench the volume of last year's Confidential correspondence respecting the revision of the Turkish Tariff, together with the further portion of this year's correspondence on the same subject, which were inclosed for transmission to that gentleman in your Lordship's despatch.

I will not fail to bear in mind your Lordship's instructions as to the destruction of any confidential printed papers, of which duplicates may be found in the volumes in question.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HUGH WYNDHAM.

No. 118.

Mr. Wyndham to Earl Granville.—(*Received December* 17.)

(No. 274. Commercial.) *Constantinople, December* 11, 1884.

My Lord,

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith copies of three despatches which I have received from Mr. Wrench, transmitting the *procès-verbaux*, with their Annexes of the 37th, 38th, and 39th meetings of the Commission charged with the negotiation of the new Commercial Tariff.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HUGH WYNDHAM.

Inclosure 1 in No. 118.

Consul Wrench to Mr. Wyndham.

Sir, *Constantinople, December* 10, 1884.

I HAVE the honour to inclose a copy of the *procès-verbal* of the 37th meeting of the Commission charged with the preparation of the new Commercial Tariff, together with its Annex.

The chapters 12 and 13 of the new Tariff relate to tobacco in its various forms; the trade in no way interests England, and the taxes which have been fixed are the result of negotiations between the Ottoman Government and the Tobacco Régie recently established.

I have, &c.
(Signed) WILLIAM H. WRENCH.

Inclosure 2 in No. 118.

Procès-verbal No. 37.—Séance du 16 (28) *Octobre,* 1884.

LES Délégués des Gouvernements de Turquie et d'Angleterre se sont réunis aujourd'hui 16 (28) Octobre, 1884.

Le procès-verbal de la séance précédente a été lu et approuvé.

Les Délégués ont examiné les Groupes 12 and 13 du nouveau projet et sont tombés d'accord sur les résultats fixés dans l'Annexe.

(Signé) WILLIAM H. WRENCH.
E. BERTRAM.
MICHAEL PORTUGAL.

Pour copie conforme:
Le Secrétaire,
(Signé) J. P. VAZZIDIS.

Annexe au Procès-verbal No. 37.

12. TOMBÉKI ET TABACS.

Dénomination des Marchandises.	Unité.	Droit, piastres or.
		Prs. c.
Tumbéki	100 kilog. ..	224 50
Tabac en feuilles et tabac coupé et haché	..	Prohibé

13. FABRICATS DE TABAC.

Cigares—		
(*a.*) En feuilles de tabac roulées	100 kilog. ..	3,000 00
(*b.*) Cigares et cigarettes fabriqués même partiellement avec du tabac coupé ou haché ..	..	Prohibé
Tabac à priser ou poudre	100 kilog. ..	2,300 00
Tabac à chiquer	.. ..	1,125 00
Autres fabricats et déchets de tabac	..	Prohibé

(Signé) WILLIAM H. WRENCH.
E. BERTRAM.
MICHAEL PORTUGAL.

Pour copie conforme:
Le Secrétaire,
(Signé) J. P. VAZZIDIS.

Inclosure 3 in No. 118.

Consul Wrench to Mr. Wyndham.

Constantinople, December 10, 1884.

Sir,

I HAVE the honour herein to transmit a copy of the 38th *procès-verbal* of the Commission engaged in negotiations for a new Turkish Tariff, as well as the Annex thereto.

The Annex contains chapter 40 of the Tariff treating of common articles of iron and steel, neither polished nor finely varnished ("ouvrages grossiers de fer et d'acier, non polis, ni vernis au vernis"), and the first article of the succeeding chapter.

The classification and taxes now set down are the fruit of prolonged negotiations, during which I have submitted two separate projects to my Ottoman colleagues. I should also state that the German Delegate was occupied with these chapters simultaneously with myself, and that his proposals, as well as my own, had to be modified until a result was arrived at that would be acceptable to the three parties interested.

It would occupy too much space were I to enter into the considerations which actuated me in the negotiations connected with these chapters. It will perhaps be sufficient for the present for me to state that, taking the rates of taxes as appearing in the printed "Statement respecting the new Turkish Tariff," and bearing in mind the difficulties inherent to a specific Tariff applicable to the circumstances of the Ottoman Empire, a classification and an amount of taxation have been decided upon, which, in my opinion, will not prejudice British trade, but which will meet the views of the Birmingham, Wolverhampton, and Sheffield manufacturers.

I have, &c.

(Signed) WILLIAM H. WRENCH.

Inclosure 4 in No. 118.

Procès-verbal No. 38.—*Séance du* 30 *Octobre* (11 *Novembre*), 1884.

LES Délégués des Gouvernements de Turquie et d'Angleterre se sont réunis aujourd'hui 30 Octobre (11 Novembre), 1884.

Les Délégués reprennut les négociations entamées dans la séance du 23 Octobre (4 Novembre), par rapport au Groupe 40 et à la suite du Groupe 41 du nouveau projet de Tarif, tombent d'accord sur les résultats fixés dans l'Annexe.

(Signé) WILLIAM H. WRENCH.
E. BERTRAM.
MICHAËL PORTUGAL.

Pour copie conforme:
Le Secrétaire,
(Signé) J. P. VAZZIDIS.

Annexe au Procès-verbal No. 38.

40. OUVRAGES GROSSIERS EN FER OU ACIER, NON POLIS, NI VERNIS AU VERNIS FIN.

Dénomination des Marchandises.	Unité.	Droit, piastres or.
		Prs. c.
Limes en paille	100 kilog. ..	36 00
Clous de fils de fer et autres	„ ..	11 00
Vis	„ ..	36 00
Câbles pour télégraphe	„ ..	52 00
Branches et garnitures de parapluies	„ ..	36 00
Coffres-forts	„ ..	90 00
Lits de fer	„ ..	30 00
Batterie de cuisine émaillée	„ ..	120 00
Haches, cognées, marteaux, scraus, chaines, hormis celles d'ancre et de navire, scies, faux, faucilles, étauchoirs, ciseaux de menuisier, de drapier, de tailleur, de jardinier et de tête, ciseilles, tambours à torréfier le café, moulins à café, poêles à frire, batterie de cuisine étamée, meubles ordinaires en fer forgé, à l'exception des lits, bêches, pelles, clefs, serrures, cadenas, étaux, enclumes, couteaux communs pour artisan, étrilles, poids en fer ou en fonte de toute espèce, balances, bascules, romaines, fléaux de balances, ressorts pour meubles, bassins à water-closet, charnières, crochets, boulons, pitons, garnitures de portes et de fenêtres, et en général tous ouvrages communs en fonte, en fer, en acier, en tôle, en fer blanc, en fil de fer et en fil d'acier, même en combinaison avec du bois, mais non polis, ni vernis ni vernis fin	100 kilog. ..	55 00

41. ARTICLES FINS EN FER (*suite*).

Coutellerie fine mais non dorée, ni argentée (couteaux, fourchettes, canifs, rasoirs, ciseaux à deux branches, tire-bouchons), même en combinaison avec de l'écaille, du nacre, ou de l'ivoire, ainsi que toute autre matière, non comprise au Groupe 3	100 kilog. ..	325 00

(Signé) WILLIAM H. WRENCH.
E. BERTRAM.
MICHAËL PORTUGAL.

Pour copie conforme:
Le Secrétaire,
(Signé) J. P. VAZZIDIS.

Inclosure 5 in No. 118.

Consul Wrench to Mr. Wyndham.

Sir, *Constantinople, December* 11, 1884.

INCLOSED I have the honour to transmit the *procès-verbal* and Annex of the 39th meeting of the Tariff Commission.

You will perceive by a reference to the Annex that the question I reserved at the 24th meeting of the Commission respecting jute yarns has at length been settled. These yarns, which were classed with linen and hemp yarns at a tax of 40 piastres per 100 kilog., are now separated under the head of "Fils grossiers de jute," and taxed at 25 piastres per 100 kilog. This classification, as well as the tax, will, I think, suit the Dundee manufacturers.

The Annex further contains chapter 79 of the new Tariff. Tissues of linen, hemp, and other vegetable fibres, excepting cotton. "Tissus de lin, de chanvre, et d'autres matières végétales à filer, le coton excepté."

The tax on the first article, which includes all jute, carpeting, and matting, is assessed at 12 per cent. of average values. I endeavoured, but unsuccessfully, to obtain a 10 per cent. taxation, but I consider 90 piastres per 100 kilog., taking into account the large variety of jute, carpeting, &c., which will be imported under this article, forms an average that will not be prejudicial to the Dundee trade.

I used my utmost endeavours to obtain an 8 per cent. taxation for sacking and sacks. My colleagues could make no diminution on the 12 per cent. demanded by the Ottoman Government, under which they insisted upon 48 piastres as a just average; I eventually, however, compromised for 40 piastres per 100 kilog., which represents, according to information collected from various sources, between 10 and 11 per cent. on values at Constantinople. This article interests also Dundee, as does the following one concerning tent and sail cloth. For exceptional reasons, these cloths are very favourably treated at a nominal duty of 8 per cent.

The remaining articles in this chapter concern the Leeds manufacturers, and I have in the negotiations done my best to induce my colleagues to accept the views of the Leeds Chamber of Commerce, as communicated to me from time to time.

The result is, that in grey goods I obtained the introduction of tickings and drills, but failed to secure that of ducks into the same category.

The tax which was proposed at 300 piastres per 100 kilog. I succeeded in reducing to 250 piastres, and I obtained also, in the category of dyed and printed goods, a reduction from 450 piastres to 400 piastres. In lace I effected a reduction to 1,700 piastres, in order, in the interests of the Macclesfield trade, to assimilate linen lace with cotton lace, as to which a corresponding reduction will be made in chapter 75. "Bonneterie" has also been reduced to 600 piastres from 750 piastres, proposed at first, and "Passementerie," in order to include cotton, woollen, and linen fringes, &c., under one uniform rate of duty, is now taxed at 380 piastres, in the place of 450 piastres. This will raise the tax proposed for cotton goods coming under this class from 375 piastres, the amount proposed in chapter 75 of the Tariff, but will reduce that on woollens in chapter 85 from 600 piastres.

The alterations I have introduced into the text are in accordance with the demands of English manufacturers.

If each article of the chapter under consideration is not, as it now appears, completely satisfactory, the chapter, as a whole, including, as it does, so many goods that will enter at low rates, and thus afford compensation for others taxed at too high a rate, may, I think, be taken as acceptable. I am not without hope, however, that the Austrian Delegate may, when his turn comes, obtain still further reductions. Knowing that Austrian trade is greatly interested in linen fabrics, it is possible that my Ottoman colleagues refuse to grant my demands *in toto*, as it would leave them nothing to concede to the negotiators of the other Powers interested.

I have, &c.
(Signed) WILLIAM H. WRENCH.

Inclosure 6 in No. 118.

Procès-verbal No. 39.—*Séance du* 6 (18) *Novembre*, 1884.

LES Délégués des Gouvernements de Turquie et d'Angleterre se sont réunis aujourd'hui 6 (18) Novembre, 1884.

Le procès-verbal de la séance précédente est lu et approuvé.

Les Délégués examinent le Groupe 79 du projet de Tarif et tombent d'accord sur les résultats fixés dans l'Annexe.

Mr. Wrench ayant reçu de nouvelles instructions à propos du fils de jute (voir procès-verbal No. 24, séance du 10 (22) Juillet, 1884), insiste sur la nécessité de soumettre le fil de jute à une taxe plus en rapport avec sa valeur; les Délégués Ottomans ayant pris en considération les explications fournies par leur collègue d'Angleterre, le § (*a*) du Groupe 77 arrêté provisoirement dans la séance susmentionnée, est aujourd'hui modifié de la manière indiquée dans l'Annexe.

(Signé) WILLIAM H. WRENCH.
MICHAËL PORTUGAL.

Pour copie conforme :
Le Secrétaire,
(Signé) J. P. VAZZIDIS.

Annexe au Procès-verbal No. 39.

77. FILS DE LIN, DE CHANVRE, ET D'AUTRES MATIÈRES VÉGÉTALES À FILER.

Dénomination des Marchandises.	Unité.	Droit, piastres or.
		Prs. c.
Fil de lin, de chanvre, de jute, ou de toutes autres matières textiles végétales, à l'exception du coton :—		
(*a*.) Simple, écru—		
1. Fil grossier de jute	100 kilog. ..	25 00
2. Autre	,, ..	40 00

79. TISSUS DE LIN, DE CHANVRE, ET D'AUTRES MATIÈRES VÉGÉTALES À FILER, LE COTON EXCEPTÉ.

Couvertures grossières et tapis de pied de jute, de chanvre, de manille, de fibre de coco ou de fibres analogues ..	100 kilog. ..	30 00
Toile grise d'emballage avec ou sans raies et sacs confectionnés avec la dite toile	,, ..	40 00
Toile à voile ou à tente	,, ..	72 00
Toile unie, coutil et drill, écrus	,, ..	250 00
Toile unie, coutil et drill, blanchis, teints ou imprimés; ducks et autres étoffes pour habillement ou ameublement, même teints, imprimés ou tissés avec des fils de couleur; toile damassée ou croisée de toute sorte; mouchoirs, linges de table et à essuie-mains, confectionnés ou non confectionnés; rubans et bordures tissés	,, ..	400 00
Batiste, linon, mouchoirs de batiste ou de linon, gaze et tulle	,, ..	1,200 00
Dentelles de fils de lin	,, ..	1,700 00
Etoffes de lin, de chanvre et d'autres matières végétales à filer, le coton excepté, brodées ou avec applications ..	,, ..	1,200 00
Bonneterie de toute sorte	,, ..	600 00
Passementerie avec des fils métalliques, ténus, telles que : franges, bordures, cordons, tresses, chenilles; passementerie et boutonnerie combinées avec du bois, de la corne, du verre, du caoutchouc, &c., telles que : boutons, glands revêtus de lin, de chanvre, ou d'autres matières végétales à filer, à l'exception du coton ..	,, ..	380 00

(Signé) WILLIAM H. WRENCH.
MICHAËL PORTUGAL.

Pour copie conforme :
Le Secrétaire,
(Signé) J. P. VAZZIDIS.

No. 119.

Mr. Wyndham to Earl Granville.—(*Received December* 17.)

(No. 278. Commercial.)

My Lord, *Constantinople, December* 13, 1884.

IN compliance with the instructions contained in your Lordship's despatch No. 150, Commercial, of the 2nd instant, I have the honour to transmit to you herewith copy of a despatch from Mr. Wrench, inclosing a Memorandum respecting the treatment of jute goods in the new Turkish Tariff.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HUGH WYNDHAM.

Inclosure 1 in No. 119.

Consul Wrench to Mr. Wyndham.

Sir, *Constantinople, December* 12, 1884.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch of the 10th instant, inclosing copies of correspondence which has passed between Lord Edmond Fitzmaurice and Sir J. Lee respecting the treatment of jute goods in the new Turkish Tariff.

In compliance with your directions, I herewith transmit a Memorandum showing the duties to be levied on these goods, as fixed by me after having been in communication with the Dundee Chamber of Commerce.

I have, &c.
(Signed) WILLIAM H. WRENCH.

Inclosure 2 in No. 119.

Memorandum respecting Jute Goods in New Turkish Tariff.

Jute Yarns.—In the chapter of the new Tariff which is headed "Fils de lin, de chanvre, et d'autres matières végétales à filer," jute yarns will be affected by the following articles:—

Fils de lin, de chanvre, de jute, ou de toutes autres matières textiles végétales, à l'exception de coton—		
(*a.*) Simples, écrus—		
1. Fils grossiers de jute	..	25 prs. par 100 kilog.
2. Autres	..	40 prs. "
(*b.*) Simples, teints, imprimés, blanchis ou lessivés..	..	72 prs. "
(*c.*) Retors écrus	..	72 prs. "
(*d.*) Retors, blanchis, lessivés ou teints	..	120 prs. "

Observations.—Sont considérés comme ficelles, et, par conséquent, taxés d'après le Groupe 78, les fils dont les 20 mètres pèsent plus que 10 grammes.

"Ficelles" are taxed at 36 piastres per 100 kilog.

The tare on yarns is 13 per cent. if in boxes or "balls," 9 per cent. if in baskets, and 6 per cent. if in bales, subject to the "principles regulating tare."

Jute Fabrics are classified and taxed as under:—

Couvertures grossières et tapis de pied, colorités au fond, de jute, de chanvre, de manille, de fibre de coco, ou de fibres analogues ..	..	90 prs. les 100 kilog.
Toile grise d'emballage avec ou sans raies et sacs confectionnés avec la dite toile	..	40 prs. "
Toile à voile ou à tente	..	72 prs. "

The tare on the above fabrics is the same as for yarns.

N.B.—The kilog. represents 220½ lbs., and the piastre $2\frac{13}{100}d.$; 110 piastres= 1*l.*

Remarks.—Yarns.—It was only after some difficulty that I induced the Ottoman Delegates to create the Class A 1. They were very indisposed to treat jute in any way differently from flax and hemp, and this principally on account of the difficulty of distinguishing between these fibres. The trade in jute yarns is very limited.

Fabrics.—I endeavoured to obtain a reduction on the first-mentioned tax, but failed; I, however, corrected the text which now includes the large variety of jute carpeting now manufactured and introduced into Turkey. The second-mentioned tax, viz., 40 piastres, is the result of a compromise, my colleagues having insisted for a long time on 48 piastres. The third-mentioned tax, viz., 72 piastres, exceedingly favourable, especially for tent cloth.

(Signed) WILLIAM H. WRENCH.

Constantinople, December 12, 1884.

No. 120.

Sir J. Behrens to Earl Granville.—(Received December 18.)

Bradford Chamber of Commerce, Exchange, Bradford, December 16, 1884.

My Lord,

I HAVE to thank your Lordship for the letter of the 2nd instant, inclosing two Memoranda prepared by Mr. Wrench, Her Majesty's Consul at Constantinople, containing the requested information as to the duties proposed in the new Turkish Tariff on silk and on iron, both of which Memoranda I return herewith, as desired.

With reference to silks, I am to inform your Lordship that the proposed duties being based on the average values as estimated by this Chamber, the rates themselves are not objected to. But I am desired to request that Mr. Wrench's attention be drawn to the "Annexe au Procès-verbal No. 33: 'Principes pour l'application de la Tare.'"

Though the principle, that goods shall pay duty on the net weight only, is generally acknowledged in that document, Article 5 declares that—

No tare shall be allowed for interior tares, as cardboard, boards, or bobbins on which threads, ribbons, tissues, and other made-up objects are reeled, wound, or placed.

This exception, which has reference to all kinds of textiles, is generally objectionable, and cannot be justified by the apprehension of fraud, which would be easily detected by the application of No. 4 (G) in the Minute No. 33 already mentioned.

But the exception made in No. 4 (G), if persisted in, would render the trade with Turkey in sewing silk impossible.

These threads are wound on wood bobbins weighing as much as the silk itself, and frequently much more. Perhaps the largest proportion of sewing silk sent to Turkey has to be assorted to suit the retail trade, and is packed in cardboard boxes, containing 12 bobbins, each with no more than 50 yards of silk, which per gross weighs only 6 ozs., while the wood reels weigh 40 ozs. In the case even if the tare for the cardboard boxes were allowed, the duty of 1s. per lb. would be raised to nearly 7s.

Appendix (A) copies a letter from the firm of Messrs. Lister and Co., which shows that the tare will only in exceptional cases be less than 50 per cent. of the reel and silk together.

I also transmit a sample box to show the way in which these silk threads are reeled and got ready for the trade.

The French Tariff taxes the weight of the silk alone, and the Spanish Tariff, which decidedly does not err on the side of liberality, allows 45 per cent. tare on silk threads wound on wood bobbins.

The Committee feel certain that no such consequence was contemplated when this Minute was drawn up, and that its consequences require only to be mentioned to insure its withdrawal.

I am not yet in the position to pronounce any opinion upon the iron duties, but hope to do so shortly.

I remain, &c.
(Signed) JACOB BEHRENS,
Chairman of Tariff Committee.

Appendix (A).

Messrs. Lister and Co. to Sir J. Behrens.

Manningtion Mills, Bradford, December 11, 1884.

IN accordance with the request of our Mr. Snowden, we have pleasure in handing you, per bearer, a box of our 50 yards reels, large quantities of which we send abroad.

The reels are put up in boxes of one dozen, same as sample sent you, and the proportionate weight of silk to reels and cardboard boxes is as follows, viz.:—

In 1 gross of (50 yards) reels—	Lbs.	ozs.
Weight of silk	0	6
" reels	2	8
" boxes (cardboard)	0	13

We also sell a large quantity of ¼ oz. and ½ oz. reels, the proportionate weights of which are as follows, viz.:—

In 1 lb. of silk ¼ oz. reels (32 reels to the lb.)	Lbs.	ozs.
Weight of silk	1	0
" reels	0	10
" boxes	0	3½
In 1 lb. of silk ½ oz. reels (64 reels to the lb.)—		
Weight of silk	1	0
" reels	0	13
" boxes	0	4½

The boxes above referred to are all cardboard ("cartons" in French), not packing cases.

No. 121.

Earl Granville to Mr. Wyndham.

(No. 154. Commercial.)

Foreign Office, December 9, 1884.

Sir,

WITH reference to your despatch No. 262, Commercial, of the 24th ultimo, respecting the reduction in the value of the Medjidieh, I have to state to you that the copy of the note from the Porte has not been received. I am therefore unaware of the grounds on which the Porte maintains that the British merchant is not placed in a position of disadvantage as compared with Austrian and French merchants; but as it is stated in Lord Dufferin's despatch No. 190, Commercial, of the 2nd September, that in the case of the latter the Medjidieh is received at the rate of 20 instead of 19 piastres, I have to request you to ascertain what are the actual facts.

I am, &c.

(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 122.

Earl Granville to Mr. Wyndham.

(No. 157. Commercial.)

Foreign Office, December 20, 1884.

Sir,

WITH reference to your despatch No. 264, Commercial, of the 25th ultimo, I now transmit, for communication to Mr. Wrench, a copy of a letter from the Bradford Chamber of Commerce relative to duties and allowances for tare in the proposed new Turkish Tariff.* The samples referred to are also inclosed.

I am, &c.

(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 123.

Lord E. Fitzmaurice to Sir J. Lee.

Foreign Office, December 20, 1884.

Sir,

WITH reference to my letter of the 2nd instant, I am now directed by Earl Granville to transmit to you a Memorandum by Mr. Wrench on the proposed new Tariff in Turkey for jute goods.† It is understood that these classifications and rates of duty are satisfactory to the Dundee Chamber of Commerce.

I also inclose a copy of the proposed new Regulations in regard to tare.

I am, &c.

(Signed) EDMOND FITZMAURICE.

No. 124.

Lord E. Fitzmaurice to Sir J. Behrens.

Foreign Office, December 20, 1884.

Sir,

I AM directed by Earl Granville to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 16th instant relative to the new Turkish Tariff, a copy of which has been forwarded to Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires at Constantinople for communication to Mr. Wrench.

I am, &c.

(Signed) EDMOND FITZMAURICE.

No. 125.

Sir J. Lee to Lord E. Fitzmaurice.—(Received December 24.)

56, Mosley Street, Manchester, December 23, 1884.

My Lord,

I HAVE now to report upon the new Turkish Tariff in respect to jute goods. I think the arrangement very satisfactory as regards yarns, and consequently I have no

* No. 120.

† Inclosure in No. 119.

suggestion to make. As regards fabrics, I submit but one alteration on the first category.

"Couvertures grossières et tapis de pied *coloriés au fond*" de jute, &c.: the words added are underlined. This is the only alteration I have to suggest.

The reason of making this addition is on account of a new industry which is growing up: carpets and rugs are now being made of jute which has been dyed various colours in the yarn, and the Tariff as agreed to by Mr. Wrench does not provide for these goods.

In other respects Mr. Wrench is to be complimented upon the very simple and reasonable Tariff.

As I am writing upon the subject of the Tariff, I may as well tell you what is going on in Germany.

The Germans are looking forward for a great increase in their trade with Turkey when the new Tariff comes into operation. They expect to send their goods overland or down the Danube into Bulgaria, and have them taxed at the rate of 8 per cent. and smuggle them into Roumelia.

Bulgaria intends to make a free port of Rustchuk, and they have every interest in promoting this sort of trade, because they will receive duty upon goods which are intended for consumption in Turkey. The Roumelian Government being autonomous, whose frontier-guard is not under Turkish control, will have a great interest in the trade, because they consume goods taxed at 8 per cent. (and that by the Bulgarian Government), and at the same time providing the Turkish provinces with goods smuggled in this way, and increasing their own trade.

I am, &c.

(Signed) JOSEPH C. LEE.

No. 126.

Mr. Wyndham to Earl Granville.—(Received December 26.)

(No. 279. Commercial.)

Constantinople, December 20, 1884.

My Lord,

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith to your Lordship copy of a despatch from Mr. Consul Wrench on the subject of the question of cotton fabrics in connection with the new Turkish Tariff which he has drawn up in compliance with the instructions I conveyed to him on the receipt of your Lordship's despatch No. 151, Commercial, of the 2nd instant.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HUGH WYNDHAM.

Inclosure 1 in No. 126.

Consul Wrench to Mr. Wyndham.

Constantinople, December 17, 1884.

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your two despatches of the 10th instant, the one inclosing, for my information and guidance, a letter addressed on the 26th November last by Sir Joseph Lee to Lord Edmond Fitzmaurice, the other instructing me to report to you in the event of my not being able to obtain the assent of the Ottoman Delegates to all the recommendations made on behalf of the Manchester trade.

I have now the honour to report that yesterday I discussed the question of cotton fabrics in connection with the new Turkish Tariff with Michael Portugal Effendi, one of my Ottoman colleagues; the other, Bertran Effendi, being absent through sickness. The meeting lasted for four hours, during which I exhausted all the arguments suggested to me, obtained on many points valuable concessions, and on other points, not I think of such great importance, I failed to move my colleague from the decisions previously arrived at.

I inclose a statement showing in the first column the original demands of the Turkish Delegates, in the second the final British proposals of the 27th November last, and in the third the taxes as resulting from yesterday's meeting. The classifications in the inclosure contain the modifications accepted by my colleague at my demand.

I will now proceed to remark upon the several classes and taxes in the order in which they appear.

Grey cloths, the first item, is also the first in importance to British trade. I succeeded here in securing better terms than those contained in the British final proposals appearing in column 2 of the inclosure, inasmuch as I obtained a tax at the rate of 11*s.* 7*d.* per cwt. instead of 12*s.*, as suggested by Sir Joseph Lee.

Tandjibs, new category, form the second item in the list, and may be considered with reference to their importance to British trade as on an equality with the following article, mulls, and coming third on the roll immediately after "dyed and printed non-transparent goods." Here I obtained the classification sought for, as well as a slight diminution of the tax suggested in the British final proposals. These are very important concessions; the alteration in the text sets at rest the objection raised by Sir J. Lee to the former proposal of the Ottoman Delegates, under which, as I informed them at the time they formulated it, confusion and disputes would arise from doubt whether heavily-sized sevaspoors could or could not be employed in the manufacture of kalemkiars or native prints.

Mulls come third on the list, and are of nearly equal importance to British trade with "tandjibs;" they would thus come fourth under this head. I have again for this class secured the text advocated by Sir J. Lee, and thus clearly defined the category. I have, however, left out the word "tchapali," which is used to distinguish low classes of mulls only. Scotch Sachrilla mulls will now come under this category, and I consequently had to make a slight concession in the tax of 20*s.* 2*d.* per cwt., proposed by Sir J. Lee. The tax now stands at 20*s.* 10*d.* per cwt.

Bleached Goods, transparent, and Bleached Goods, non-transparent.—The former of these comes fourth in the list, and I should say about seventh in order of importance to English trade; the latter comes fifth on the list, and with reference to British trade would come sixth in order of importance, or immediately after "tandjibs" and "mulls."

With regard to the classification, Sir Joseph Lee proposes to take "jacconets" from the transparent, and add them to the non-transparent class. As there are certain transparent goods called "jaconats," I considered the best way would be to eliminate the word altogether. By so doing, goods called "jacconets" or "jaconats" will come into the first or second category, accordingly as they are transparent or non-transparent.

All mention of mulls and sevaspoors have also been removed from these classifications.

With respect to the taxes, I could effect no change in the original propositions.

During our sitting, Michael Effendi sent for and quoted from a Return, showing the values upon which duty in cash has been paid by importers of all the goods under consideration for three or four months past. It must not be forgotten that during this time the right of payment in kind has been freely exercised when the Customs valuer's estimate was considered by the importer as too high. In the two categories of bleached goods, as well as in the two categories of dyed and printed goods, the Returns showed that the values upon which importers have been paying duty were invariably above those which at 15 per cent. would give the taxation the Ottoman Delegates originally demanded.

Michael Effendi argued that in bleached transparent tissues he had consented to the removal of "tandjibs" and "mulls," and consequently had taken out articles which had lowered the value of the class, without demanding any corresponding advance in the taxation of the remaining dearer goods. Under these circumstances, he could not justify himself were he to give in to my demands. It appears to me that the goods now remaining in this class are mostly of a kind which would not suffer in amount of importation under the taxation demanded, but I speak under correction.

For bleached non-transparent goods, Sir J. Lee considers that an increase of 10 per cent. over grey cloths, the first item in the list, would give a reasonable advance; but it must be borne in mind that the bleached class of non-transparent tissues contains many fine goods, whereas poor cloths, bleached, are not introduced into Turkey for the purposes of calico printing, and thus rivalling English printed goods. Consequently, a 10 per cent. augmentation would appear to be much too small.

Dyed and Printed transparent Goods are sixth on the list, and I should say about last of the category as interesting British trade. With regard to classification, I have eliminated, as in bleached goods, the word "jaconats," and for the same reason. As

to tax, there is not very much difference between the Turkish demand and the proposal of Sir J. Lee, but here again I could obtain no reduction whatever. This class also contains, with few exceptions, fine goods, and would not, I think, suffer from the taxation demanded. At all events, the Ottoman Delegate adheres to his demand for 52*s.* 9*d.* per cwt., and will not entertain the proposal to reduce it to 50*s.* 4*d.* per cwt.

Dyed and Printed non-transparent Goods.—This category comes seventh on the list, and is undoubtedly second in point of importance to British trade, coming immediately after "grey cloths." In the classification I have introduced "handkerchiefs hemmed or not." Jacconets are left out for reasons already given, and non-transparent kalemkiars cannot be introduced. I do not, however, consider the introduction of these kalemkiars as affecting our trade; such as do come to the east, in imitation of native prints, are prepared in Switzerland principally for the Persian market, and the Delegates of the Porte would naturally decline to introduce a class of goods at a low rate of duty when the immediate effect would be to strangle one of the very few Turkish industries that still survives. With respect to tax, although I did not succeed in obtaining the reduction sought for, represented by 22*s.* 10*d.* per cwt., I yet reduced the demand from 29*s.* 2*d.* per cwt. to 27*s.* 9*d.*

Cloths made of dyed or printed Yarns.—This class comes eighth on the list, and perhaps sixth in importance to British trade. The text remains without change, and I reduced the tax from 25*s.* per cwt. demanded to 22*s.* 8*d.* per cwt., or within 2*d.* of the duty proposed by Sir J. Lee.

It will thus be seen that as regards classification I have obtained every essential point that is set forth in Sir Joseph Lee's letter of the 26th November. With respect to taxes, in the most important class of all, namely, "grey cloths," I have obtained better terms than those proposed by Sir J. Lee. In the class second in importance, I have obtained a reduction on previous demands, but perhaps an insufficient reduction. In the two new classifications for tandjibs and mulls, which I imagine to be third and fourth in importance, I have obtained for the former more favourable terms than those proposed by Sir J. Lee, and for the latter nearly the same terms. In the classes which I think come fifth, seventh, and eighth in order of importance, I have failed to obtain concessions, and in the category coming sixth in importance I have nearly secured the tax proposed by Sir Joseph Lee.

I have, in the inclosure, drawn up the whole of chapter 75 as it now stands, and will add a few remarks on the remaining articles it contains.

Lace, which for local reasons cannot be subdivided, is now set down at 157*s.* 1½*d.* per cwt., instead of, as originally demanded, 166*s.* 7½*d.* per cwt. Cotton and linen lace will be subjected to the same amount of taxation. I do not imagine that this tax will cause any diminution in the small importation of English lace into Turkey.

Passementerie has been raised from 34*s.* 8½*d.* per cwt. to 35*s.* 2*d.*, and this has been done so as to bring cotton, linen, and woollen trimmings, &c., under the same tax. A slight augmentation of the duty on cotton trimmings is compensated for by a very considerable diminution for woollens of the same class, which were set down at 55*s.* 6½*d.* per cwt. The other articles of the chapter remain as formerly, but I have not yet discussed every cloth as a separate item, as I wish to assimilate it to emery and sand paper, in order to obviate the necessity of unpacking and sorting.

In conclusion, I would remark that the Ottoman Government rely, to a great extent, upon the revenue to be derived from cotton goods, which form so important a proportion of the imports into Turkey, to provide the funds necessary not merely to launch the various reforms projected, but also to show a considerable surplus over former years, in spite of the loss of some 500,000*l.* caused by the intended abolition of internal dues.

Such being the case, it is not surprising that my Ottoman colleagues should stand out for their original demands; that yesterday valuable concessions were made I attribute to the hope that now England will accept the chapter, and thus, as but little remains for me to negotiate, enable the Delegates to report to their Government within a brief delay the termination of the negotiations with the British Delegate.

I imagine that it would not be possible for me, basing my demands upon the representations of manufacturers, to obtain any further concessions as to duties on cotton goods. Should Her Majesty's Government see fit to make a point of insisting upon a further reduction of the tax upon cotton prints and dyed goods, that being a class second only in importance to England to the category of grey goods, I would request that I may receive instructions to that effect.

Michael Effendi, at the close of the sitting, begged me to communicate the results

arrived at to my official superiors, and to request an early expression of their opinion thereon.

I have, &c.
(Signed) WILLIAM H. WRENCH.

Inclosure 2 in No. 126.

CHAPTER of New Turkish Tariff relating to Cotton Tissues.

75. TISSUS DE COTON.

Dénomination des Marchandises.	Propositions Ottomanes	Propositions Finales Anglaises, 27 Novembre, 1884.		Résultat de la Séance du 16 Décembre, 1884.	
	100 kilog.	Cwt.	100 kilog.	100 kilog.	Cwt.
	Piastres or.	s. d.	Piastres or.	Piastres or.	s. d.
1. Tous les tissus à l'exception du velours façon soie—					
(*a*.) Écrus, tels que, T-cloths, waste-cloths, grey twills, grey drills, grey shirtings, grey cambrics, grey longcloths, et autres tissus semblables, à l'exception de tulle et tulle dit Anglais	135	12 0	129	125	11 7
(*b*.) Blanchis—					
(1.) Sevaspoors (Tandjibs) de toute qualité	125	9 4½	101	100	9 3
(2.) Mulls de toute qualité ..	250	20 2	221	225	20 10
(3.) Gaze, tulle, Victoria lawn, et semblables tissus transparents ainsi que les mêmes tissus transparents écrus ..	375	30 4½	327	375	34 8½
(4.) Tous les autres blanchis, tels que : tissus dénommés au § (*a*), ainsi que les madapolans, shirtings, piqués, linge de table, mouchoirs ourlés ou non ourlés, futaine, &c.	210	15 0	140	210	19 5½
(*c*.) Teints ou imprimés—					
(1.) Gaze, tulle, mull, mousseline, et semblables tissus transparents comme : kalemkiar, tarlatan, organdis, &c. ..	570	50 4	543	570	52 9
(2.) Tous les autres tissus lisses ou façonnés comme : étoffes pour doublures, drap uni, calicot, crétonne, piqués, damassés, tissus à raies, à fleurs, &c., mouchoirs ourlés ou non ourlés	315	25 10	286	300	27 9
(*d*.) Étoffes tissées de fils teints ou imprimés	270	22 6	243	245	22 8
	600	55 6·44	600	600	55 6½
2. Velours façon soie	1,050	97 2·20	1,050	1,050	97 2½
3. Broderies à la main ou à la mécanique ou avec applications, telles que : rideaux, bandes entre-deux, &c.	1,800	..	..	1,700	157 1½
4. Dentelles					
5. Bonneterie, telle que : bas, chaussettes, bonnets, gilets, caleçons, gants, et autres tricotages, écrus, blanchis ou en couleur ..	360	..	..	360	33 4
6. Passementerie et boutonnerie, même combinée avec du bois, corne, verre, caoutchouc, &c., tels que : boutons, glands, revêtus de coton sur forme de bois, corne, &c.	375	..	..	380	35 2
	270	..	..	270	25 0
7. Filets de chasse ou de pêche et autres rêts ..	180	..	..	180	16 8
8. Mèches à lampes	60	..	..	?	?
9. Toile d'émeri					

No. 127.

Earl Granville to Mr. Wyndham.

(No. 158. Commercial.)

Sir, *Foreign Office, December 26, 1884.*

WITH reference to your despatch No. 278, Commercial, of the 13th instant, I transmit herewith, for your information, and for communication to Mr. Wrench, a copy of a letter from Sir Joseph Lee with respect to the proposed duties for jute goods in the new Turkish Tariff.*

You will perceive that Sir Joseph Lee also calls attention to trade between Germany and Turkey.

I am, &c.
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 128.

Lord E. Fitzmaurice to Sir J. Lee.

Sir, *Foreign Office, December 26, 1884.*

I AM directed by Earl Granville to thank you for your letter of the 23rd instant relative to the Turkish Tariff, which will be duly communicated to Mr. Wrench.

I am, &c.
(Signed) EDMOND FITZMAURICE.

No. 129.

Lord E. Fitzmaurice to Sir J. Lee.

Sir, *Foreign Office, December 26, 1884.*

I AM directed by Earl Granville to transmit to you a Report by Mr. Wrench of his further discussion with the Ottoman Tariff Commissioner on the subject of duties on cotton goods in the proposed new Turkish Tariff.†

I am to request that you will be so good as to consider the inclosed papers, and favour Lord Granville with such observations as you may have to offer on them.

I am, &c.
(Signed) EDMOND FITZMAURICE.

No. 130.

Sir J. Lee to Lord E. Fitzmaurice.—(*Received December* 31.)

My Lord, *56, Mosley Street, Manchester, December 30, 1884.*

I HAVE carefully considered Mr. Wrench's despatch of the 17th instant, and have now to report upon it as follows:—

Category (*a*). "Écrus (*b*) blanchis" No. 1 and No. 2 are quite satisfactory.

Category (*b*) 3. I asked for a rate of 30*s.* 4½*d.* per cwt., being 15 per cent. *ad valorem*; this is declined, and the rate of 34*s.* 8½*d.* is maintained, being 17 per cent. *ad valorem*. The class of goods entering under this category is not important to British trade, and as we have taken everything of importance out of it, the rate might be conceded.

Category (*b*) 4. A very important class of goods come under this category, viz., shirtings and madopolams; they are the same goods as are taxed in category (*a*) "Écrus," under the name of T-cloth, grey shirtings, long-cloth, and when bleached take the former signification; the cost of bleachings is about 10 per cent. of the value, as stated by me in the Report, the 26th November. These goods are not used for printing, but for the ordinary purposes of domestic use. If the tax be maintained at 19*s.* 5¼*d.* per cwt. the *ad valorem* duty will be 25 per cent. on the low qualities, 20 per cent. on the medium, 18 per cent. on the fine.

* No. 125. † Inclosure in No. 126.

The tax of 15*s.* per cwt. which I proposed is really a compromise, the bulk of the goods shipped being under the value of 10*d.* per lb., and my proposal is based on 11*d.* per lb. With these facts before him, Earl Granville will be able to decide if any concession is necessary.

Category (*c*) 2. A very important class of goods. My values are taken at 1*s.* 6½*d.* per lb., which is 15 per cent. *ad valorem*; the counter-proposal is 1*s.* 8½*d.* per lb., or 16 per cent. *ad valorem*; the difference is not serious, but when it is considered that the rate I proposed is very heavy on low goods, viz., furnitures weighing 35 lbs. for 100 yards, at 4½*d.* a yard, would pay 25 per cent. No doubt finer goods will pay a small duty; the importation of them is quite of a retail character.

With the exception of Category (*b*) 4, I have no serious objection to the Tariff; (*c*) 2 is important, and more might probably be obtained, but in the others we have so changed the classification and reduced the rate as to make them practically workable, and I think they will be satisfactory to British merchants, as far as a Tariff can be made so.

I think we shall be under great disadvantage when the railway is built to Philippopoli; the Austrians and Germans will be able to send goods into Roumelia at 8 per cent. *ad valorem*, and distribute them over the other provinces. If the Turks put extraordinary duties upon goods which enter their ports, the trade will be deserted to Roumelia; in fact, it is the intention of some of our own merchants to open houses and keep stock in Philippopoli as soon as the railway is open; but I am afraid they will buy German goods, and we shall be the sufferers.

I have mentioned before the subject of the payment of duties in silver; 19 piastres to the Medjidieh is the rate now. This should be fixed by the Tariff, as the Turks might suddenly demand duties in gold which would add 10 or 12 per cent. to the Tariff.

I am, &c.
(Signed) JOSEPH C. LEE.

No. 131.

Earl Granville to Mr. Wyndham.

(No. 159. Commercial.)

Foreign Office, December 31, 1884.

Sir,

I COMMUNICATED to Sir Joseph Lee the inclosures in your despatch No. 279, Commercial, of the 20th instant, and I now transmit, for your information, and for communication to Mr. Wrench, a copy of the letter which has been received in reply, containing further observations on the subject of the proposed duties on cottons in the new Turkish Tariff, and matters relating to trade with Turkey.*

I am, &c.
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 132.

Lord E. Fitzmaurice to Sir J. Lee.

Foreign Office, December 31, 1884.

Sir,

I AM directed by Earl Granville to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of yesterday relative to the Turkish Tariff and matters connected with trade with Turkey, and, in thanking you for the same, I beg to inform you that a copy will be sent to Mr. Wyndham for communication to Mr. Wrench.

I am, &c.
(Signed) EDMOND FITZMAURICE.

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* No. 130.

Appendix.

No. 1.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(Received September 10.)

(No. 190. Commercial.)

My Lord,

Therapia, September 2, 1884.

I HAVE the honour to report that I recently received a despatch from Her Majesty's Consul at Smyrna, stating that he had received complaints from several British merchants of that town to the effect that the Custom-house authorities are now insisting on receiving the silver Medjidieh at 19 piastres only in payment of dues, instead of giving it the current value of 20 piastres.

Mr. Dennis also stated that he had been informed that the merchants of all nations are subjected to the same treatment, save those of France and Austria, in whose favour an exception is made, their payments being still received at the custom-house at the usual rate of 20 piastres to the Medjidieh. These exceptions have been made, Mr. Dennis adds, on the ground that the Treaties between the Ottoman Empire and France and Austria have not yet expired, and that therefore, in the case of those two Powers, no alteration can be made in the value of the currency, but that such is not the case with Great Britain and the other Powers whose Treaties with the Ottoman Empire have lapsed.

Bearing in mind the views of Her Majesty's Government as regards the right of British merchants in the Ottoman Empire to most-favoured-nation treatment, as set forth in your Lordship's despatch No. 74, Commercial, of the 5th June, 1883, I have thought it my duty to address a note to the Ottoman Minister for Foreign Affairs, copy of which is inclosed herewith, referring his Excellency to the notes from this Embassy, in which the views of Her Majesty's Government on this subject were clearly laid down, and protesting against the differential treatment to which British merchants are being subjected in the present case, which places them in a disadvantageous position as compared with the merchants of France and Austria.

I should be much obliged if your Lordship would kindly favour me with instructions as to any further steps you may deem it necessary to take in this matter.

Pending the receipt of your Lordship's instructions, I have instructed Mr. Dennis, who as yet is the only Consul who has brought the matter to my notice, to direct British merchants in Smyrna to accept, under protest, the alteration made by the Custom-house authorities in the current value of the Medjidieh.

I have, &c.
(Signed) DUFFERIN.

Inclosure in No. 1.

The Earl of Dufferin to Assim Pasha.

M. le Ministre,

Therapia, September 2, 1884.

I HAVE the honour to inform your Excellency that I have received a despatch from Her Majesty's Consul at Smyrna, stating that he has received complaints from several British merchants of that town to the effect that the Custom-house authorities are now insisting on receiving the silver Medjidieh at 19 piastres only in payment of dues, instead of giving it its current value at 20 piastres. Her Majesty's Consul adds that an exception to this rule is made in favour of merchants of French and Austrian nationality, their payments being still received at the custom-house at the usual rate of 20 piastres to the Medjidieh.

It appears that the above-mentioned exceptions are made on the ground that the Commercial Treaties between the Ottoman Empire and France and Austria have not yet expired, and that, therefore, in the case of those two Powers, no alteration can be made in the value of the currency; but that such is not the case with Great Britain

and the other Powers, whose Commercial Treaties with the Ottoman Empire have lapsed.

Your Excellency is already in possession of the views entertained by Her Majesty's Government as regards the right of British merchants in the Ottoman Empire to most-favoured-nation treatment, as set forth in Mr. Wyndham's note to Aarifi Pasha of the 15th June, 1883, and in my note to His Highness of the 2nd October last. It is in accordance, therefore, with these views that I feel it my duty to protest against British merchants being subjected to differential treatment as to the Medjidieh being accepted from them at a value of 19 piastres instead of 20, thus placing them in this matter in an unfavourable position as compared with the merchants of France and Austria.

I avail, &c.
(Signed) DUFFERIN.

Annex.

Memorandum by Sir E. Hertslet.

IT was expressly stated, in the Tariff of the 7th December, 1861, that the duties on imports and exports were to be paid in pure gold and silver coins, at Government rates; that the gold Medjidieh of 100 piastres, which should be given in payment of those duties, should be received (at the Turkish custom-houses) at the rate of 100 piastres; and that the pure gold and silver coins into which it was subdivided should be received on the same basis, 5 silver Medjidiehs being received at 100 piastres for 1 gold Medjidieh; or, in other words, that the silver Medjidieh should be received as being of the value of 20 piastres.

The Porte, however, now declare that, so far as British merchants are concerned, the silver Medjidieh shall in future be only received at the rate of 19 piastres, although when the same Medjidiehs are paid by French and Austrian merchants, they shall still be received at the rate of 20 piastres; and they make this distinction on the ground that the English Treaty of 1861 has expired, whereas the Treaties with France and Austria are still in force.

In other words, they refuse to allow that British merchants are any longer entitled to most-favoured-nation treatment.

This point was fully considered in all its bearings in May 1883, when the Law Officers gave the following opinion upon the subject:—

They said (18th May, 1883), we have the honour to report—

"That it is open to contention that the 1st Article of the Treaty of 1861 is to be regarded as an independent stipulation, not only confirming existing Capitulations, but granting for all time most-favoured-nation treatment, and that this latter right is not extinguished by the Treaty being put an end to.

"But we do not think this can be insisted on as clearly the sound one. We think the sounder view probably is that, when the Treaty ceases, British subjects are remitted to their prior rights, and that they are entitled to the benefit of all the Capitulations and Treaties prior to the Treaty of 1838, which was replaced by that of 1861.

"We think, therefore, that the claim should be put forward that British merchants are either entitled to most-favoured-nation treatment, or, if not, to the fulfilment of the privileges conceded by the earlier Capitulations; and, in the event of the former being denied them, we think the latter claim should be preferred."

Upon receipt of this Report, Mr. Wyndham was informed that (5th June, 1883) Her Majesty's Government considered that, in the event of the lapse of the Treaty of the 29th April, 1861, they could continue to claim complete most-favoured-nation treatment for British subjects, ships, commerce, and navigation in the Ottoman dominions; but that, in the event of any difficulty being raised on the part of the Porte, British subjects were fully entitled to claim, as an alternative, the privileges conceded to British merchants by the Treaties and Capitulations prior to the Treaty of 1838, which was replaced by that of 1861; and Mr. Wyndham at once addressed a formal note to the Porte to that effect.

The *current value* of the silver Medjidieh appears to be *20* piastres, and it would be manifestly most prejudicial to British interests that this rate should be ignored in the case of British merchants, whilst it is admitted in the case of French and Austrian merchants, and, if allowed, it would be the first step towards depriving British subjects

and their commerce of most-favoured-nation treatment, if not of greater privileges, to which they are clearly entitled under the Capitulations.

(Signed) E. HERTSLET.

Richmond, September 16, 1884.

No. 2.

Earl Granville to Mr. Wyndham.

(No. 143. Commercial.)

Sir, *Foreign Office, November* 21, 1884.

I HAVE had under consideration the Earl of Dufferin's despatch No. 190, Commercial, of the 2nd September, relative to the rate at which the Medjidieh is accepted at the Turkish Custom-house in payment of customs duties.

I have to inform you that Her Majesty's Government approve his Excellency's proceedings, as therein reported, and will await the answer of the Porte to his Lordship's note of the same date before further instructions on the subject are addressed to Her Majesty's Embassy.

I am, &c.
(Signed) GRANVILLE.